

SUZANNE MOORE ON THE FINAL TABOO Should we show death on TV? COMMENT, PAGE 23

WHY NIKE **IS LOSING** THE RACE Sports fashion runs into trouble **NEWS, PAGE 3** 

No 3.563

IS THE KING OF VIOLENCE GOING SOFT? Ryan Gilby reviews the new Taranting



# Newspaper of the Year for photographs

Friday 20 March 1998 45p (IR50p)

# Rebuke for Blair over <sup>®</sup> Ecclestone free trip

By Anthony Bevins Political Editor

TONY BLAIR was formally censured by an all-party Com- the House to the importance of mons committee yesterday for registering, or seeking the Reg- servative complainant, said the not registering a family visit to istrar's advice, in any case where the British Grand Prix, at Sil- there may be any doubt." verstone, in July 1996.

The verdict from the Commons Committee on Standards Silverstone trip because he had per head" - adding that six othand Privileges, that the visit should have been declared by in the Register of Members' In- as an opportunity to watch mo- registered the perk. terests, revived Labour embar- tor-racing - hence my departure rassment over last year's soon after the start of the race". Formula One affair.

The Conservatives immediately condemned Mr Blair's spokesman that during the vis-"rankest hypocrisy", and de- it, he had met Formula One's "mistaken." manded an apology from the Bernie Ecclestone, who was of the Commons; a form of par- to Labour - leading to last studity of the latest position; sayliamentary punishment by or- year's controversy over govproposed by the Standards and sponsorship of the sport. Privileges Committee.

as well as Labour - last night turned on the committee, say- who acts as Westminster's speing they would now feel com- cial investigator, was that the vispelled to register anything and it should have been registered, everything, no matter how mi- and the committee unaninor. One Labour critic said: mously upheld his view. "The "The whole machinery of Nolan rules applying at the time," Sir was set up to catch rogues and rascals - not this tat and trivia." istration of any hospitality ex-But the committee issued a ceeding £215 in value given to

case of its kind," it reported, "and we draw the attention of House."

yesterday by Mr Blair's official

But some senior MPs - Tory don Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, Gordon said, "required the reg-

further warning to all ministers a Member or a Member's and MPs. "This is not the first spouse, which in any way relat-

"cost" of the hospitality would have come to £600 for Mr and Mr Blair told the committee Mrs Blair. Sir Gordon upheld that he had not registered the that view - "a value of over £300 gone "as part of my duties as er MPs who had been at Silleader of the Labour Party, not verstone on the same day had

The judgement of Sir Gor- that it would have cost him £60 cident - on Willey's urging. and, if he took his wife, £120?

ing. While sermonising about Newsweek magazine, Michael the rankest hypocrisy..."

ed to membership of the

Andrew Robathan, the Con-

Sir Gordon said in his report that while there was "undoubt-However, it was conceded edly some confusion" over the principle of visits undertaken in an official capacity, Mr Blair was

The Prime Minister's official ing: "Every time William Hagne

For the Tories, Francis Maude said: "Tony Blair is tacted her last spring and asked caught in a trap of his own makthe need for all politicians to Isikoff, who was pursuing the comply with the rules both in letter and in spirit, he was breaking the rules himself. It is

Prime Minister in the Chamber later to make a donation of fig. spokesman suggested the ab- THE credibility of Kathleen she had related being groped and in the Paula Jones sexual ha- her." Willey, the latest accuser in fondled by the President.

Julie Hiatt Steele said in an

More specifically, Ms Steele said she was supposed to tell Mr Isikoff how Ms Willey had seen Leading article, page 22 her on the day of the purported asked her to feel his genitals.



# Willey lied, says her friend

deal that had not been erument policy on tobacco goes to an agricultural show, yesterday when a friend said she does he have to declare the fact had lied about the alleged in-

affidavit that Ms Willey had conher to lie to a reporter from encounter in November 1993 and how, in a state of great distress, in an affidavit given to lawvers me she needed me to do this for

expected bonus for the White House which has done its own work to undermine Ms Willey. notably by releasing serial admiring letters sent by her to the

In an appearance on televi-sion last Sunday night, Ms Willey propelled the sexgate affair into a new orbit with claims that the President imposed himself upon her outside the Oval Office, touched her breasts and

\*-\*

for nine years.

rassment case. It seems that she when first interviewed by him

before Newsweek ran the story. said: "I told Ms Willey that I could not make such statements because she had not come to my house that day and had never told me of any sexual advances

but she withdrew what she said

made by President Clinton. "She [Willey] repeatedly assured me that any discussion last month Mr Gecker [the with Mr. Isikoff would be 'off

The Steele revelation came all right if I lied to him, She told

Further damaging Ms Wil-Yesterday's twist was an un- did indeed lied to Mr Isikoff ley's case, a supermarket tabloid proached by a lawyer trying to sell her story for \$300,000 In the statement, Ms Steele (£184,000). Phil Bunton, the editor of Star magazine, said talks broke off because he offered only \$50,000.

"We've been trying to persuade Kathleen Willey to talk to us for about six months now, and basically some time in the lawyer] said she might talk for Kathleen Willey: Credibility the record' and that it would be \$300,000," Mr Bunton said.



undermined by Julie Steele

# Elton John asked by Sotheby's to return stolen sculpture

By Steve Boggan

ELTON JOHN has been asked to return a piece of an ancient Roman sarcophagus which he antiquity at auction on 8 Debought at anction following the cember 1994. It is described in discovery that it had been the sale catalogue as Lot 133:

Sotheby's in London four years century AD." ago for about £8,000 believing its provenance to be completely sound.

auction house contacted him to ask for the piece back when it resent an Amazonomachy [an emerged that the sale may not Amazon battle]." have been lawful. There is no suggestion that either party knew there was a problem with the piece, but the need for its



return has resulted in Sotheby's conducting a world-wide search to find a replacement for him.

The singer bought the "A fragment from a Roman Sir Elton bought the piece at marble sarcophagus, circa 3rd-

A brief description continues: "With the figure of a horseman, a slain figure below, However, late last year the another figure on the corner, the scene would appear to rep-

Measuring 59cm by 35.9cm (23 and a quarter ins by 14 and one-eighth ins), the catalogue estimated its value at between £6,000-£8,000.

still displays the fragment in the drawing room of his home in representatives are co-operat- hope that a similarly fine piece



The sarcophagus fragment Sir Elton will have to return

It is understood that Sir Eling fully with Sotheby's officials ton, a great collector of fine art, who, in turn, are searching for a similar piece.

One dealer said a full refund Old Windsor and regards it as had been offered by Sotheby's, one of his favourite pieces. His but it was turned down in the

could be found elsewhere, "He got more pleasure from the artefact than he ever could from the return of the money,"

said the dealer. "The worst part about it was that last year was a terrible one for Sir Elton, with the loss of his friends Princess Diana and Gianoi Versace, The last thing he needed was to have something else taken away from

Chris Proudlove, a spokesman for Sotheby's confirmed the fragment had been stolen.

- "It will be returned to its owner when a replacement can be found," he said. "We are working with Elton John's organisation to find a replacement as soon as possible."

Mr Proudlove declined to give details of the sale price, or a fuller description of the piece on the grounds of client confi-

It is not known from whom from the British Isles for more the piece was stolen. than 400 years.

### Today's news

**Bell reunion** Martin Bell MP was yesterday reunited with his stepdaughter, a former prostitute and exporn star whom he has not seen

Page 5

Censorship fight A university vice chancellor will tell colleagues today that he in-

tends to place the university in conflict with the police in his fight against censorship.

Scrubs warning An independent watchdog group has warned they were "seriously concerned" that "a few unrestrained officers" at Wormwood Scrubs may be

**Budget patience** Tony Blair made a plea for patience yesterday, when he

abusing inmates.

and Gordon Brown met 250 people for a post-Budget question-and-answer session.

Beaver returns The beaver could be returning to Scotland after being absent

Page 13

# Church drops stake in genetics company

By Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

The Church Commissioners have disposed of a £1.3m shareholding in a leading genetic engineering firm after protests that the investment was incompatible with Christian values. But they will still invest in an oil company accused of employing forced labour in Burma and two other genetic-engineering firms and an arms manufacturer.

A spokesman for the commissioners said the decision to pull out of Monsanto was made purely on investment grounds, even though its shares had risen in the past two years. The company confirmed it had been asked to justify its activities after questions from MPs. Norman Baker, Liberal Democrat MP for Lewes, complained that the Church's investment policy was not as ethical as it maintained. But a spokesman denied it had bowed to Mr Baker's ar-

American firm. "We no longer invest in Monsanto because we have changed our investment management arrangements. It is not for ethical reasons."

Colin Merritt, technical manager for Monsanto UK, said that after Mr Baker's protest in July the company had been asked to explain its activities. Having beard it engineered soya beans and potatoes but not humans or animals, the commissioners were satisfied their investment was ethical, he said. However, the decision to divest had been made shortly af-

terwards on financial grounds. "Not being a financial expert I am not sure what those reasons were. We have grown considerably in terms of share value over are of course a growth company in the longer term." he said. is incompatible with the Chris-

guments over Monsanto, an Church Commissioners have pulled out, even if they have moved in rather mysterious ways."

Despite the decision, MPs will continue to question the church's investment policy. Yesterday the commissioners' spokesman confirmed it was keeping an investment of almost £1m in Total Oil, despite the Methodists' decision to scrap a £300,000 bolding in the firm because of its involvement in Burma. Many Western companies have taken the view that it is impossible to do business there without supporting the military government.

promised to look into the issue, but yesterday their spokesman the last couple of years, and we said they were satisfied by the company's assurance that it Mr Baker welcomed the deci- treatment of all its employees. sion. "Investment in Monsanto An independent report had recently said the firm had not emtian doctrine. I am delighted the ployed forced labour, he added.

INSIDE GUIDE: WEATHER, P2 CROSSWORDS, P32 AND EYE P10 TODAY'S TELEVISION, EYE P12 FULL CONTENTS, P2

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Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK new half of 1997.

# **Scrubs** staff admit beatings go on

Crime Correspondent

AN INDEPENDENT watchdog group warned yesterday that they were "seriously concerned" that "a few unrestrained officers" at Wormwood Scrubs - the jail at the centre of allegations of staff brutality may be abusing inmates.

A report by the Board of Visitors at the west London jail also said that prison chaplains had passed on allegations of beatings and staff had privately admitted "it goes on".

As it became clear last night the warnings were given to the Prison Service three weeks ago, new governor, Stephen Moore, currently in charge of Albany Prison on the Isle of Wight, was drafted in to bead Wormwood Scrubs.

It emerged that it took a separate set of allegations - that about 20 officers had systematically beaten at least eight inmates at the prison - for an inquiry to be set up. The investigation into the claims began yesterday as officers at the jail walked out in protest at a "lack of support" from management in dealing with the allegations.

It is also understood that Sir David Ramsbotham, the Chief Inspector of Prisons, privately described the jail as "appalling" after members of his inspectorate carried out a visit about two months ago.

The growing number of complaints and allegations against the jail's regime is rapidly turning the situation into a major issue for the Prison Service and ministers.

The early publication of the Board of Visitors' annual report yesterday added fuel to the controversy. It said a "principal area of concern is inmate alle-It added: "We are seriously

concerned at the possibility of a few unrestrained officers taintof decent, dedicated, staff.

"Some names (of officers) crop up regularly in these alle-

gations and some staff have privately acknowledged to us that 'it goes on'."

The visitors said that although the complaints have been examined and none was upheld, there remained doubts that it was a "whitewash".

The segregation unit, which can house up to 14 inmates who are usually sent there for being violent or disruptive, was singled out for criticism. The report said that inmates believed it was "a place where force is illicitly and habitually used" and prisoners alleged that strip searches were "carried out routinely".

The report was sent to the Prison Service on 25 February. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, was shown a copy only yesterday. Board of Visitors reports are usually held for a month before they are published.

Further criticism of the "Scrubs", which holds about 1,400 remand and sentenced offenders, is contained in a recent letter to Stephen Shaw, director of the Prison Reform Trust. The Independent understands that Sir David said he was receiving "more and more complaints" about conditions at the jail and a short visit their by the inspectorate at the turn of the year "confirms many of the complaints we are receiving."

Mr Moore is to take up his new post in 10 days. Wormwood Scrubs has been without a governor since November.

Yesterday morning the jail's acting governor, Michael Gordon, was faced with a protest meeting of 200 of the 700 staff outside the prison gate. The Prison Officers' Asso-

ciation said the claims, which were presenting a dossier by a firm of solicitors, were "absolutely shameful". Branch secretary Duncan

gations of abuse by officers . . . Keys said: "As far as we can ascertain they are based on supposition, innuendo, myth, everything in fact except fact.

no medical evidence that would support any of their allegations.



Ship-shape: Lt Melanie Robinson, 29, on board HMS Express in Troon yesterday. She 26. of HMS Dasher in Portsmouth, shattered centuries of tradition when they became the first women to take command of Royal Navy warships, as was revealed in The Independent last month Photograph: Chris Becon

## Irvine pleads artistic licence

laces orsity

By Colin Brown Chief Pointcal Correspondent

THE LORD Chancellor said last night that it was better to have fine works of art on his walls than bave them "lan-guishing in cellars" when he threw open the doors of his grace-and-favour apartment in the Lords for the first time since its controversial £650,000 re-

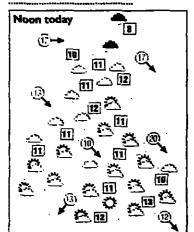
Welcoming around 100 guests from the Womankind Worldwide charity to the River Room, Lord Irvine said: "I'm not going to ask you what you think about it. Someone once said you have to suffer for your art - and it is not even my art! I hope you will agree with the trustees of the lending museums that it is better for these heautiful pictures and sculptures to be here - available for people to see - rather than languishing in cellars where no one can enjoy them."

The guests getting a preview before the work is finished and officially opened to media scrutiny next month were attending a £35-a-head fundraising reception hosted by Lord Irvine for the charity. It was being held to celebrate women's achievements in the legal profession, and those invit-ed include Cherie Booth QC. the Prime Minister's wife, who, as an assistant recorder in county courts, is on the first rung of the ladder to becoming a judge.

The charity helps women in Third World countries fight poverty and oppression and the event, which will be followed by other openings for invited groups, also launched the charity's Civil Literacy for Women campaign to educate women about their legal rights.

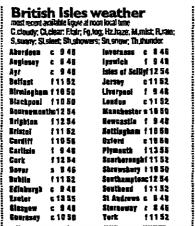
As Britain's senior law officer. Lord Irvine told his guests he would do all he could to give women lawyers a fair chance to become judges. He said women should be proud of what they had achieved in the legal profession "against the odds". But he added: "We must do more to break down the barriers women still according to joining the legal profession. and barriers to making progress within it ... My duty is to ensure we are not deprived of their talent by creating the conditions in which ambitious women can make their mark."

### WEATHER



The Northern Islas will be the only part of the UK to see any am of note on Enday. However these will be a little draztic at times along western coasts of Scotland and post-bly along the north coast of Northern heland Most other parts will have a dry day with any early mest and for in parts of central and southern England quickly clearing. There will also be some decent surmy breaks but North Sea coasts in East Anglia will have a lot of bloud to specifyings.

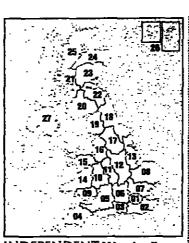
Outlook for the next few days icesping the weather sellied. Most places will see spells of sunctione after early morning must or log pationes. and north-west of Scotland may have some more charle This solution will remain through the weekend. but on Monday the petited weather will break down with cain moving into Scotland and Northern lectand.



Air quality

Outlook for teday London S England Wates C England N England Scotland

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World weather response the Special

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WILLIAM **HARTSTON** WEATHER

WISE

"SAY ANYTHING that you like about me," WC Fields insisted, "except that I drink water." Let us hope there are no WC Fields films on television this Sunday, for 22 March is the World Day for Water, as desgnated by the United Nations General Assembly in 1992. This year, it is being celebrated under the theme "Groundwater: the invisible resource".

According to the World Meteorological Organisation, the total volume of water on the globe comprises 97.5 per cent saline and only 2.5 per

cent fresh water. Of the groundwater, however, about 45 per cent is fresh, and indeed some 99 per cent of all liquid fresh water resources are, at any given moment, beneath the surface.

Between 1900 and 1995. there was a sixfold increase in global water consumption. while the world population increased only threefold. As surface water supplies refi short, the importance of groundwater will increase. Until recently, however, this has been a resource exploited mainly when surface water

has already run out. The main problem is that of sustainable exploitation. Quite apart from identifying the location of this invisible resource, there is the everpresent threat of pollution. Groundwater resources can only be used at a rate at which they can replenish themselves or they will fall victim to what the WMO calls a "chemical time-bomb". Underground water must be one of the earth's greatest underexploited resources, and it seems certain to develop an ever-increasing importance in mankind's history.

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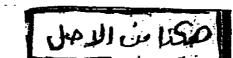
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Professional

licence By Cula Brown

"'Obscene' book faces university III) reach change The most that a sails And the Market Hast

with trial y By David Lister

Arts News Editor

A UNIVERSITY vice-chancelfor will tell colleagues today that he intends to place the university in conflict with the police in his fight against censorship.

An emergency meeting of the Senate of the University of Central England in Birmingham will take place today to inform senior staff that the college could be prosecuted under the Obscene Publications Act.

Vice-chancellor Dr Peter Knight was interviewed by police earlier this week over his refusal to destroy the university's copy of Mapplethorpe, a book about the controversial American photographer, the late Robert Mapplethorpe.

Dr Knight voluntarily attended an interview with West He was cautioned and interviewed, and the interview was recorded.

The Crown Prosecution Sertographs in the book. Following the police interview, a univer-Dr Knight did not agree to the

Mapplethorpe, a copy of which is in the British Library and most college libraries, was seized by police last October. lands Police, via the university's They had been alerted by a solicitors, a definitive statechemist who developed photographs of the book taken by for the destruction of the book a student for a thesis on "Fine by next Monday.

Art versus Pornography". Lawyers acting for the CPS

had grounds to ask the university voluntarily to destroy it.

plethorpe's work features explicit photographs of his - and other people's - sex lives. His most notorious image is of himself with a whip in his rectum. Other works show men performing homosexual acts. His work has been shown at most major galleries in the Western world, including the Institute of ward Gallery and the National

Dr Knight said: "It is clear vice has objected to two pho- sity resources that may result from any subsequent trial.

"I have informed the West sity spokesman confirmed that Midlands Police that the university has 26 other books and request for the destruction of catalogues of the works of Robert Mapplethorpe together with one CD-Rom."

Dr Knight also said he had undertaken to give West Midment in response to the request

Susan Sandon, marketing director for the publishers decided parts of it were likely to Jonathan Cape, told The Inde-"deprave or corrupt" under the pendent: "This has been in print 1959 Obscene Publications Act since 1992 and we certainly

As well as portraits and studies of flowers, the late Map-Contemporary Arts, the Hav-Portrait Gallery in London.

that there is the real possibility of a prosecution of the university and the publishers ... As a result of this serious development I believe it is only proper that I should convene an emergency meeting of the Sen-Midlands Police on Wednesday. ate of the University in order to ensure that all colleagues understand and appreciate the seriousness of the situation and the potential drain on univer-

and advised the police that they have no plans to withdraw it."



Ennobled: Professor Lord Winston, head of the fertility clinic at the Hammersmith Hospital in west London

er shy about expressing it.

using and abusing it.

# The brooding faces of a fertility god

FOR A LORD of creation he looks uncommonly gloomy. The thick moustache and hang-dog expression convey infinite sadness. Odd, really, in one who has brought joy to hundreds of couples who have found themselves, in his hands, transformed into parents, writes Jeremy Laurance.

Now the fertility pioneer Professor Robert Winston, ennobled by Tony Blair but deified by practically everyone else, has turned his attention to the other end of life. As presenter of a new BBC television series The Human Body, to be shown in May, he this week defended the decision to allow the cameras to film the last moments of a man dying from inoperable cancer.

In a typically robust piece in Wednesday's Times he dismissed critics who fear that the scene may distress the recently bereaved and expressed his "outrage" at "journalists who have tried to sensationalise the decision" to show it on prime-time television.

As a candidate for God's earthly rep-

runs the fertility clinic, about his constant IN THE NEWS pushing against the limits and his frequent appearances on television. He in turn is frequently irritated by the "bloody LORD WINSTON bureaucrats who run medicine".

orthodox Jew, he speaks often of how resentative, Lord Winston has few much his family means to him and has equals. He is the moral arbiter of our wondered aloud how he would have coped had he been infertile himself. times - ever ready with an opinion on the latest ethical conundrum and nev-He is a libertarian with an authori-

Married with three children, and an

tarian bent. He has defended treating lesbians - "There is no evidence they Brilliant, mercurial but also intolerant and arrogant, he has a complex rewould do damage to a child" - and arlationship with the media, alternately gued on behalf of his HIV-infected patient that she would make an excellent Many times he has made the news

Television producers love his broodical boundaries. He has always gone his ing looks, his deep, reassuring voice and own way, against received opinion. his theatricality - for years he wanted When it emerged that he was giving ferto be an actor, not a doctor. He says he hates talking about himself and loves tility treatment to a woman with HIV he was quite prepared to override counter talking about science. That is why be gives the interviews and makes the views and was disdainful of the critical public reaction. There has been unease films. Sometimes, however, the mask at the Hammersmith Hospital, where he slips and he displays an arrogance bor- gloomy.

dering on contempt. He thought the reaction to Dolly, the cloned sheep, with warnings of bizarre animals and Identikit Saddam Husseins, was "ludicrous", and the fuss over designer babies raised by the development of genetic screening ill-informed.

The problem is that he doesn't suffer fools - and next to the professor most people are fools. That makes him a prick-

The arrogance dates from an early age. At the London hospital where he trained, he was a member of the Failed Pharmacology Club after flunking early exams. He wore the club tie, which bore a Latin inscription "Eight Pints". to a subsequent viva (oral exam) - and was promptly failed. He said later: "Pharmacology is a useless subject. If I want to know a dosage I ask a nurse."

Is he happy? It is hard to tell. He once confessed: "I'm very competitive. Every day is a constant battle to do things better." Maybe that's why he looks so

### **WINSTON ON** N-VITRO FERTILISATION

was one of those people who thought IVF was a waste of fine ... I was wrong." That was in 1978, when Steptoe and Edwards had delivered the world's first test tube baby. By 1980 Waston was cond that IVF was pething Hammer-ich hospital should doing. Now it has one of the largest IVF clinics in Britain.

WINSTON ON THE WOMAN WHO WANTED TO GIVE BIRTH TO HER OWN GRAND-

CHILD

Saich Jones, 49, agreed to bear children for her danghter, Suzanne Langston, 20, who was born without a womb. Winston said: "It sounds like rather a brave thing for a mother to do."

WINSTON ON SURROGACY

initially he was in fayour, but later he changed his mind. He have met 2 number of mothers who claim not to have been distressed by the experience [of giving up the baby at birth] but who, in fact, have been badly hurt"

WINSTON ON **DIANE BLOOD** 

He read her affidavit on her fight to have her dead husband's baby at 2am and wept. Less than two hours later he was faxing his own opinion in support of her fight to her lawyer. "I thought, God in heaven - how can they do this? This must

# \*Sales slump as designer trainers lose footing in fashion stakes

himself, as now, by pushing out the eth-

NOT SO LONG ago they were de rigeur for anyone aspiring to streetchic. Designer trainers were statements of style, and Nike one of the most stylish of all. But now the fashion gurus say trainers have had their day, and Nike yesterday revealed a 69 per cent slump in earnings in the final three months of last year.

1,600 jobs or 7 per cent of its work-East, and and an "oversupply" of the product in its largest market, the £ 1.19 in Thailand. Inited States

Two years ago the company, along with rivals, was accused by

said that trainers were advertised by force. It says the current woes are international athletes like Linford largely due to turmoil in the now Christie for more than £ 50 a pair. limping "tiger" economies in the Far but the average labour costs of producing them is 46 pence in China and

Nike announced, following the criticism, that it would introduce independent monitoring of its facto-Christian Aid of exploiting Third ries. Yesterday, it said the cutbacks

As a result, the company will cut World workers. The charity also would make the company leaner and other famous brands such as Fila, to walk this year" and another style "Fashion is fickle ... If trainers are more competitive.

> Industry watchers do not, however, see a quick turnaround for the giant multinational. Diane Daggatt of US analysts Dain Rauscher said They have got to work through all these issues, primarily inventories and slowing demand".

She did add that an upturn could begin in 1999, but will Nike, and the zine says " smart shoes are the way

a market as lucrative as in the past?

idols abandoning them. The Verve, said to be the coolest band around, wear not trainers, but Clark's Wallabees. And Calvin Klein's models are no longer shod in scruffy trainers but work boots. The Face maga-

Adidas, Vans and Converse ever have mag, I-D, stated "flashy silver trainers are being overlooked in favour

> Total sales of sports footwear fell by 3.5 per cent in 1996, compared to a rise of 7.7 per cent the previous year, and according to analysts the market is saturated.

Sociologist Philip Armitage said:

now considered naff by the trendsetters then this will permeate down Not if the young buyers see their of rugged, subtly shaded action to the market in general over a course of time.

"Designer trainers are not, of course, going to disappear, but they are likely to stop being seen as compulsory wear. A lot of parents will breathe a sigh of relief at that until the next fad comes along."

# Row over car firms' 'racist, tasteless' ads

By Kate Watson-Smyth

Two of the world's largest car. makers yesterday had to withdraw advertisements following complaints that they were insulting and racist. Ford had produced a television commercial for its Escort based on the film The Full Monty, featuring a group of male strippers.

But the advert, shown in the North-east, received complaints that it only used white nen, whereas the film included a black stripper. Toyota also climbed down after it ran an advert in Australia claiming the Queen was a "British export that's had its day". Devised by Saatchi and Saatchi for a Lexus 4WD car, it appeared the day

ended last month, but still faces criticism from royalists. It featured the grille of a Range Rover below the words: "Don't worry, Your Majesty, you're not

the only British export that's had its day." Philip Benwell, chairman of the Australian Monarchist League, said: "It is a grave insult." In a letter to the Japanese ambassador, he wrote: "How dare your companies disparage the Sovereign of

Brian Sheehan, chief executive of Saatchi and Saatchi, initially defended the advert. saying it was intended to be controversial and had received few complaints but yesterday designers at the firm said it had been withdrawn. A Toyota



spokesman said it was a one-off. "It was developed in Australia and intended for use only in that country. Toyota (GB) Ltd do not agree with the style or content and would never have allowed such an advert to run in this country. We are very pleased it

is no longer being used." In similar vein, Ford apologised for its Full Monty advert and said it adhered to a strict equal-opportunities policy. However, two years ago it was at the centre of a similar con-

-troversy after it was revealed Mather, an "extra-special push" perimposed over black faces in a photograph used for an ad

In a statement yesterday intended to be an exact repromost suitable men were chosen. All four happened to be white." It said it was giving the ad-

that white faces had been su- in its racial-awareness training schemes, based on Ford's own ethnic-diversity programme. Bill Morris, secretary of the

Transport and General Work-Ford said: "The advert was not ers' Union, said: "It would seem neither agency nor client duction of the film and a group have yet learned society must be of both black and white actors reflected in all its diversity ... If

were auditioned and the four a black actor was good enough to make The Full Monty a runaway success, black people are good enough to help sell the vertising agency, Ogilvy & Ford cars which they make."

Not what you'd expect from a computer magazine!

# Hard times forces RSC to make dramatic cuts

THE ROYAL Shakespeare Company is to cancel a national tour and introduce other cuts following smaller-than-hoped audiences at Stratford-upon-Avon and a mounting deficit, writes David Lister.

A current deficit of £1.6m is expected to increase to £2m by

by the company two years ago. More alarming is that some performances are playing to very low houses. A performance of Twelfth Night was only 10 per

cent full and one of The Merchant Of Venice 23 per cent full. The company will cancel its mid-scale tour, which plays in 800 to 1,000-seat theatres across the country. An internal report, leaked to The Stage newspaper,

are £748,000 below a target set adds: "It is no longer possible to balance our budget without reducing the scale of our work. Base operations in Stratford and London will have to be secured. Ways have been looked at to restructure the budgets - some will

> the huge success of Cyrano [a recently acclaimed production

with Antony Sher]. We are hoping that we can convince fund- He also confirmed the box-office ing bodies to correct our funding position to enable us to re-instate this tour in 1999."

in taking the company around the

figures, but added that a 64 per most West End theatres would The cancellation is a blow for be proud of and we are confident RSC artistic director Adrian that the average figures for Twelfth Night and the Merchant of Venice will be healthier by the

end of the season". The company's troubles were due to a standstill grant

Bring your computer to life! In the current issue of Computeractive you'll find easy-to-understand articles providing practical advice on scale tour was being cancelled. perking up your PC, buying a pocket computer and the best of the Internet. Plus 101 other ways to bring your computer to life. Get your copy today! .

April. Although the winter figures for Strafford are up by eight per cent on last year, to an average of 64 per cent, they

be frozen, some will be cut." The report continues: "Unfortunately, there will be no mid-scale tour in 1998, despite

Noble, who passionately believes

country, claiming that is the remit of a national company. A spokesman for the RSC

confirmed last night that the mid-from the Arts Council, he said.

# Phone codes to change yet again

TELEPHONE dialling codes in six areas of the country are to change again - in some cases for the third time in seven years - because on to customers. telecommunications operators are running out of new numbers.

Phone users in Coventry. Portsmouth, Southampton, Cardiff and Northern Ireland will be given fresh area codes beginning 02-plus another identifying digit, while people in London will see the abolition of 0171 and 0181 prefixes.

One positive side-effect of the change in the capital will be the end of the snobbery inherent in having inner and outer London numbers. Instead of two codes. Londoners will all have codes beginning 020.

The changes, which will come into force on 22 April 2000, are being introduced because of the sheer demand on new numbers caused by the steady growth of telephone connections and the huge increase in de-

the Internet. Added to that is the demand from new telephone services companies which have to be allocated numbers in blocks of 10,000 to pass

Peter Clark, chairman of the national code and number change (NCNC) steering group, said that the new prefixes would give parents and employers greater control over certain telephone services, such as sex lines. From the date of the changes, adult lines and expensive premium rate numbers will be grouped together under an 0909

"As well as giving us more numbers, the changes will group UK codes into clear and understandable families,"Mr Clark said. "Businesses are not the only ones affected. Everyone with a fixed telephone line, mobile, computer modem or fax machine needs to understand the

"This is a vital step to take our

mand for computer connections to phone system into the next century. PhOneDay, in April 1995, paved the way for the latest changes. By inserting a "1" in every code, the path was opened up for future changes and more prefixes - meaning that 01, 02, 03 and so on can be allocated for different uses. However, there are no guarantees that these changes will last longer than the first decade of the

new millennium. In the capital, where busines have had repeated changes of numbers - and expensive updating of stationery and liveries on vans and lorries - the London Chamber of Commerce expressed concern.

"Although business is helping the telecoms industry with these changes, we are concerned that they will be very disruptive," a spokesman

"We have known about these changes since January last year, and yet it is only now that we are getting some concrete information about



Brighton belle: Charles Hadcock with his 20-tonne cast-iron sculpture, which now rests on the town's beach

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# Sculptor shapes up on the beach

BRIGHTON beach will never look the same again. A 5metre high cast-iron abstract sculpture, titled Passacaglia, was yesterday being bolted into the shingle by its sculptor. Charles Hadcock - with the help of a crane and a team of engineers and foundrymen.

It weighs 20 tonnes - only a tenth the weight of Antony Gormley's Angel of the North, hoisted on a hill outside Gateshead last month - but hefty enough to satisfy the current civic yearning for monumental modernism.

"It's big, it's brave, it's bold", said Lord Bassam, Brighton's council leader, "and it's very Brighton. Like Brighton, it will definitely have a strong reac-

Like Brighton? Not quite. Though unmistakably contemporary, Hadcock's design relies rect proportion, taken from nature, that were cherished as and Romans and guarded as in 20 tonnes of cast iron.

secrets ever since by shady fraternities. The patterned heads of sunflowers, the coils of sea shells - and the façade of the Parthenon - are said to share the same divine geometry.

Does it work? A passer-by. watching Hadcock, 32, a graduate of the Royal College of Art, wielding a spanner, told him: "It's such a pleasing shape, but I don't know why."

"That," Hadcock replied, relishing the moment, "is because it's got sacred geometry.

"It really works," Hadcock said with a grin. "I find that eight out of ten people say they prefer it. People really do know what they like."

Hadcock took his inspiration for the sculpture from the firstcentury Roman architect Vitruvius. The structure, which is sited opposite Brighton promenade's greasy-spoon caffs and souvenir shops, cost £40,000. It was funded with the help of the on almost-forgotten rules of cor- National Lottery. It might have amused the ancients to watch holidaymakers, candyfloss in divine by the ancient Greeks hand, trying to locate the divine

### Seven years for councillor who set fire to wife

AN accountant was yesterday jailed for seven years after being convicted of pouring petrol over his unfaithful wife and setting her alight.

Warwick Crown Court found Trevor Eames, 55, guilty of causing his wife, Ursula, grievous bodily harm with intent. Judge Richard Bray told Eames, a local councillor, he was guilty of a premeditated terrible deed.

He said: "I am certain the offence was premeditated because your wife dared to leave you, you inflicted a terrible revenge on her. You poured petrol on to her neck then set fire to her. Then you stood by grinning.

"As a result she has suffered the most horrible of injuries which will be with her for the remainder of her life."

### Masons to reveal judges

SENIOR judges are understood to have told the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons that they have no objection to the lodge revealing which judges are Masous.

The Judges' Council - chaired by the Lord Chief Justice Lord Bingham and made up of 17 senior judges - met to discuss the question and sent a letter outlining their views to the lodge this morning.

The move comes after the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, said he would write to the lodge - the governing body for the country's 350,000 masons - to ask for a list of Masons in the

### Raid gang boss gets 20 years

A FEARED underworld gang boss dubbed "The Ayatollah" was jailed for 20 years and the mistress he coerced received a three-year sentence yesterday. James Phillips, 47, from Greenwich, south-east London, masterminded "a stream" of armed raids on jewellers and other targets over four years which netted more than £1m, an Old Bailey court was told.

His lover, Christine Clapp-Smith, 48, from Bermondsey. south London, helped him set up two raids on West End jewellery shops. Before one raid, she made up an armed robber to look like a woman so as not to arouse suspicion. But Clapp-Smith was "a terrified robot" in the hands of her violent lover, according to her counsel, Ian Joblin.

### Lawyer faces prosecution

A LAWYER is facing professional charges and a police investigation into allegations that he forged divorce decrees. The Law Society of Scotland confirmed it is to prosecute Kenneth Anderson at an independent tribunal which has the power to disbar lawyers. Lothian and Borders Police issued a statement confirming it is also probing the allegations against the lawyer.

### Buying pasta - with a twist

TESCO is offering customers a crash course in Italian to save mistakes at the check-out. One shopper asked for Lamborghini instead of linguini, the thin, flat pasta, while another asked for rigor mortis instead of rigatoni, tube shaped pasta. Tesco has drawn up a leaflet spelling out the names phonetically.





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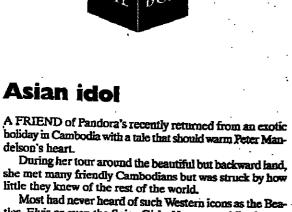
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walking in the the temple gardens at Angkor Wat, she was approached by a pleasant young man who asked where she called home. When she told him that she was from Britain, his face broke into an enormous grin and he said, "Ah, yes,

ties, Elvis or even the Spice Girls. However, while she was

### Derry's in demand

POOR Lord Irvine. It seems he is facing a huge tax bill as a result of his selfless flat refurbishment on behalf of future generations. Since the details of his plans for the Lord

Chancellor's apartments became public, a number of clergymen have written cross letters to the newspapers. They have pointed out that the Inland Revenue charged them for benefits in kind when their vicarages were done up. On their behalf, Tory MP Eric Forth put down a question. It was answered by Dawn Primarolo, a Treasury minister, to the effect that government ministers occupying official residences met the statutory conditions for exemption from tax on living accommodation or structural alterations. That seemed clear until she added: "Where improvements to the accommodation consist of repairs, decoration or furniture, tax is charged on a benefit by Section 163 (2) of ICTA to 10 per cent of the taxable ministerial salary and any other benefits."

Wallpaper, mirrors, curtains: sounds like decoration and furniture to me. When Pandora called the Treasury to confirm that this made Lord Irvine liable to a whopping tax, he was told by an Inland Revenue spokesman, "All Dawn Primarolo did was set down the rules. At the Inland Revenue we do not comment on the tax position of any individuals, including Lord Irvine." Derry, better ring your accountant.

### Northern exposure



A FRIEND of Pandora's is well acquainted with Lady Aitken, Jonathan's charming mother. When he was arrested on Tuesday, the police were very discreet about which London station was used for his interview in order to keep the pack of journalists from (As it was, they mobbed him on his home doorstep.) My friend happened to speak to Lady Aitken during the day and casually asked where her son was being grilled. "It's in Ful-

ham," said the good lady. "Although if they really wanted to keep anyone from finding him they ought to have taken him to a station north of the Park." Highgate? Isn't that a wasteland somewhere near Leeds?

### Cyber slander

PANDORA wandered over to the Central Office of Information offices in Lambeth earlier this week to watch the BSE bearings and was impressed by the

All official participants were equipped with lap-tops on which they could watch a rolling transcription of the hearings as typed by a recording secretary. However, when the language speeded up, it was obvious that the recorder had to struggle to keep pace. Thus the word "cannibalistic" came on the screen as "cannibal list tick". This gave Pandora a mildly amusing free association - "cannibal lipstick" - until another variant flashed on screen. Professor Richard Lacey had been speaking of how in the past the Ministry of Agriculture had been "pushing a line". The screen transcript rendered this as "pushing a lie".

Shortly thereafter, the chairman of the panel himself began to refer to how the government had been "pushing a lie". Can you sue a computer for libel?

### DAILY POEM

### Entertaining women

By D | Eneright

In a night-club in Hiroshima, A combo playing noisily. A girl asked sweetly, "Kohi shimaska"?: Should they make coffee? No. he replied, it kept him awake. It was "koi", it struck him later, not "kohi": It was love she had offered, not coffee. The thought kept him awake.

Next day, as a guest of Rotary, He conveyed (without authority) Fraternal greetings from Cradley Heath. Waiting outside was a victim (Rotary does not entertain women), A victim for him to see, to see him. Him with his face still scarlet, Her with her white scarred arms.

This is our final selection from D J Enright's Collected Poems 1948-1998 (Oxford University Press, £15). Enright taught English for many years in the Far East and Egypt, and has also worked as a publisher, critic and editor. This poem first appeared in Instant Chronicles (1985).

# MP meets prostitute stepdaughter



Family reunion: Jessica Sobel arriving to meet her stepfather (right) Photograph: David Dyson

MARTIN BELL, the former war reporter turned independent MP, was yesterday reunited with his stepdaughter, a former prostitute and porn star whom he has not seen for nine

Jessica Sobel, 29, who was flown to London by a national newspaper, met up with her stepfather in a hotel and the pair talked and posed for photographs, But although Mr Bell was happy to see her again, he expressed disquiet that the I have to go to my constituenmeeting had been arranged by the Mirror.

daughter's life until she was tracked down by reporters in the in London sightseeing." US, and he only discovered titute after her book was pub- ror during their meeting. "It was later became a nude masseuse lished four months ago.

He wrote to her then saving united. Mr Bell said: "It was a spent about two hours togeth- they were with her all the time ing her to get in touch.



er. I hope to see her again but cy and she is only staying for two or three days. But she knows He knew nothing of his step- where to contact me now. I think she is quite happy to stay

He said that pictures of the that she had worked as a pros- meeting were taken by the Mira deal with the Mirror and I was and £500-a-night prostitute. not a party to that. As a former he hoped they could meet up journalist it is not something ! and yesterday they were re- am particularly happy about but it was all arranged. Jessica was

and they are looking after her during her stay."

But despite his discomfort about the meeting, Mr Bell said he would stay in touch with his stepdaughter. "She needs all the support she can get at the moment. Her war zones were much more terrible than mine."

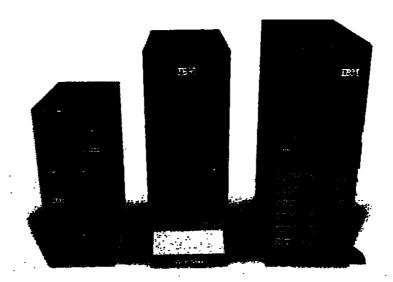
The MP for Tatton was working in Washington and married to his first wife Helene Gordoun when he meet Miss Sobel's mother, Rebecca, in 1976. They were lovers for eight years and then married for four. But they separated in 1988 and divorced three years later.

After graduating from university. Miss Sobel went to Hollywood and "did just about every despicable thing there is". After a bit part in Barwatch she turned to porn movies and

Two years ago, she decided to get her life back on track and wrote a book about her experiences. When it was published, very friendly meeting and we flown over by the Mirror and he immediately sent a letter ask-

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حكدًا من الاعل

One of the veal calves in a welfare-rearing base at the Rosemaund

Research Centre near Hereford. Campaigners are fighting for an end to veal-calf

shipments to the Continent Photograph: Reuters

# \*Whitehall urged to seek end to 'cruel' veal trade

in Brussels

ANIMAL welfare campaigners urged the Government to seek a change in EU law last night after losing a legal battle to put a permanent end to shipments

of veal calves from Britain calf exports. The 15 judges rejected a challenge by Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) to the Government's claim that even if it wanted to end live-calf British ports in 1995. exports, its hands were tied by

The defeat was "devastating", Joyce D'Silva of CTWF EU's BSE ban is phased out. The said. "This shows that free first lifting of the embargo for trade is God in the European meat from Northern Irish herds

cabbages and TV sets but it has to be a different matter when animals are suffering".

The outcome will have no practical effect for now because British traders have in any case been banned from shipping cattle abroad under the "mad cow disease" ban imposed on Britain The European Court found in March 1996. Before the BSE that the British Government ban more than half a million yeal would be acting illegally if it im- calves were exported each year posed a unilateral ban on veal from Britain to be reared in crates in Holland, Belginm, France and Italy. Public ourrage about the cruelty involved led to protests and blockades on

But Ms D'Silva said calves the rules of the single market. would be one of the first categories certified for export as the



She said the onus was on the animals are sentient beings, Government to put the case for and they have the EU presia change in the law on the EU dency until July. They could not agenda immediately. "Labour have said they want a meat trade not a livestock trade in Europe. They are armed with a new de-

claration in the Amsterdam

treaty which recognises that

within the confines of the sinbe in a stronger position". Labour pledged before coming to power that it would ban the veal-calf export trade if the European Court established

that it could be done legally

gle market. Lawyers for CIWF had argued in the High Court of England and Wales that Britain could invoke a clause in the EU treaty which allows governments to block trade for reasons of public morality, public policy or the health and life Court's own Advocate Gener-

of animals. They argued that because a significant section of public opinion in Britain believed EU rules on veal-calf raising are too weak, Britain should be allowed an exemption.

But the judges, overturning a preliminary opinion by the

al, said Britain could not impede the calf trade because common EU rules on the minimum standards for the raising of calves in crates already exist.

Pressure from Britain led to inclusion last June of a new EU treaty protocol which obliges Brussels to "pay full regard to the

welfare requirements" of animal when implementing market policies. The treaty has not yet been ratified but Ms D'Silva said the ruling flew in the face of the spirit of the protocol. The Court failed to give animal welfare or the concerns of the British public "the time of day" she said.

# Union ... Free trade is fine for was agreed earlier this week. Shops accused on own-brand

SUPERMARKETS were ac-

cigarettes

brand" cigarettes. Most major chams sell owncases their ownership is con-dustry. cealed because supermarkets fear it will harm their image, Dr Martin Jarvis of University Col-

lege, Loudon claimed. British Medical Journal found that own-label cigarettes were on average 20 per cent cheaper than leading brands but had higher nicotine and tar levels. Dr Jarvis, who conducted the research, said the supermarkets could least afford to smoke, suf-Tered most from smoking and

who most needed to give up. He said: "With nearly all other products the supermarket's name is prominently displayed on the label. But most of these cigarette packets don't mention the supermarket at them as a service to our cusall. It's as if they are ashamed of what they are up to. They want to profit from the tobacco trade without associating

their names with it." Retailers' own-brand cigarettes account for half of all the brands marketed in the UK and 7 per cent of all cigarettes sold. On average, they cost £2.48 for a packet of 20, as against the normal selling price of £3.20 for brand leaders.

Own-label cigarettes identified in the study included Ben- actively engaged in selling these ington at Tesco, Kings Men at cheap unbranded cigarettes ...

Co-op and Balmoral at Asda. Only Asda's packet carried the store name.

Dr Jarvis, of the Imperial cused yesterday of covertly Cancer Research Fund's health profiting from the tobacco trade behaviour unit, said some stores by selling thinly disguised "own had transferred ownership of the brand to the manufacturing company in a bid to dissociate label cigarettes but in nearly all themselves from the tobacco m-

But he said most of the lines were available exclusively through the supermarket outlets and claims that they were A study published in the not own-label brands were "se-

Tesco remained adamant. however, that the Benington range was not an own-label product. A spokesman said the line was launched in 1995 as an own-label product but the polwere exploiting groups who icy had been reviewed and ownership of the trademark passed to makers R J Reynolds. They were also on sale at other outlets, he said.

Co-op insisted the lines it sold were "exclusive brands, not own-brand cigarettes". A spokesman said: "We provide tomers who smoke. We need to be able to compete against other retailers ... In some respects we are caught between the devil and the deep blue sea."

Dr Vivienne Nathanson, head of science and ethics at the British Medical Association, said: "The supermarket chains want to be seen as the friend of the hard-pressed mother, offering wholesome food at reasonable prices ... It is quite grotesque that they should be

# Designers bring style to aids for disabled

WHEELCHAIRS. walking sticks and Zimmer frames should be trendier and better designed so disabled people are proud to be seen with them, a design conference was told yesterday, writes Rosa Prince.

Disabled people complain that because equipment is usually provided by the NHS or social services, it is often clinical, ugly and unwieldy. Many are ashamed to be seen with it.

Rather than being treated as a single group, disabled people. sy they should be targeted as insumers with different needs, opinions and lifestyles.

To help manufacturers meet the challenge of providing equipment for such a disparate group, a CD-ROM called De- an NHS Zimmer frame.

sign Aid was launched yesterday detailing the interests and aspirations of disabled people. Compiled by Design for Ability at Central St Martin's

College in London, the CD-ROM is based on interviews with 600 disabled people and will be used by designers and manufacturers who want to know more about their lives. To show the type of equip-

ment which could be made using the CD-ROM, the design consultants Tangerine have produced the Active Walking Frame - lightweight, foldaway and partly made of wood. Researchers say disabled people were proud to be seen with it, and it is as cheap to produce as

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**LONDON AREA** 

AN END was declared yesterday to the "scandal" of schools with Victorian outside lavato-

Education Correspondent

David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, announced a £35m package to give all schools "the decent facility that every school should have".

The money is part of a £90m building programme for schools. It will include £40m to open up new classroom space to help meet the Government's pledges on class sizes and £15m to replace out of date heating systems, a major cause of winter school closures.

Mr Blunkett announced the package in the Commons as he outlined plans for spending the £250m promised for education in Toesday's Budget.

He said: "We will bring to an end the scandal whereby children in 600 of our schools, most of them primary, still have to go outside in order to use the

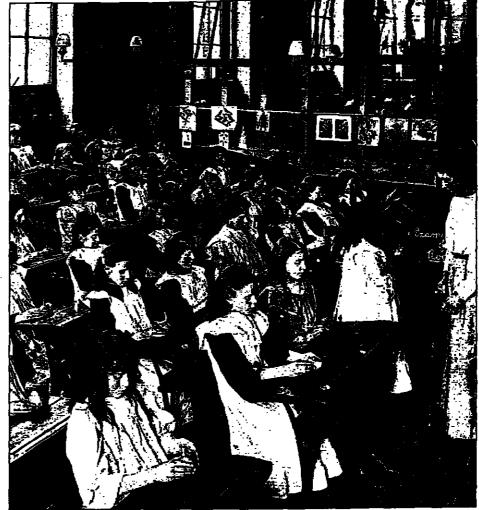
"Tens of thousands of children have to go outside to use facilities which often date back to the Victorian age. That is simply unacceptable in the last years of the 20th century. "By next year, we will have

ended the scandal of outside toilets forever. It will take our schools from the Victorian age into the age of the new millen-

Mr Blunkett said the money was in addition to the £1.3bn promised over the lifetime of the Parliament to tackle repairs in schools.

He said: "This extra funding will help us to deliver our core pledge on class sizes. Doing so ure to provide any more cash will help us to meet our demanding literacy and numeracy targets."

But Liberal Democrat education spokesman Don Foster



In from the cold: Schools are to get £35m for 'decent facilities' Photograph: Hulton Getty

said inflation forecasts would wipe out any chance of real improvements in school funding. He said: "The Government is right to allocate £35m to deal with the legacy of the previous government which forces school children to use outside toilets. However, the Chancellor's fail-

leaves the real issues facing schools possesolved." Teachers' leaders welcomed

mated £3 on school repair back-

of Head Teachers, said he was too cold to work in." delighted at the removal of the "last remnants of the Victorian

despite his growing war chest only a step". He added: "Out- within the next financial year. the amounicement, but warned

that yesterday's announcement side toilets are a breeding still left schools with an esti- ground for germs and diseases and much educational time is lost because of the problems David Hart, general secre- they create. Schools also lose a tary of the National Association lot of time because of they are

we have pat

Six hundred schools, many in inner London and rural areas. still have outside lavatories. Doug McAvoy, general sec- Officials estimate that one in retary of the National Union of five schools also have boilers Teachers, said the move was a over 20 years old. Ministers "step in the right direction, but hope the work can be done

# one parent mothers and fathers on the increase

By Glenda Cooper Social Affairs Correspondent

THE NUMBER of lone parents has risen by more than a number of children living with third, the Office for National Statistics said vesterday.

While most lone parents are women, the ONS, in its latest edition of Population Trends. says there is a steady growth in lone fathers, particularly those who have never married. In 1971 only one in 13 families was headed by a single parent; now it is one in five. Estimated figures for 1996 put the number of single parents at 1.6 million compared with 1.23 million in

parent families in 1995 is estimated to be 2.7 million, compared with 2 million in 1990.

Thirty years ago lone mothquarter in five years, while the ers tended to be widows or separated. Now nearly four out of one parent has increased by a ten lone mothers have never married, and with divorced mothers make up nearly three- verse. Since 1981 one-child quarters of all single mothers. There is also a small but growing proportion of women - one three or four children have in seven - who have never mar- grown. In comparison it is now

phenomenon of never-married fathers bringing up dependent children as part of a one-parent family".

The number of children per

one parent family has also grown, while for couple families this has been the complete refamilies among one-parent families have fallen, while those with ried or cohabited with anyone. more common for couple fam-The percentage of widowed ilies to have one-child families fathers has halved since the ear- and three and four-child family 1970s, with divorces making lies have become less frequent. up the largest percentage now. Lone parents frequently have a The growth in single lone fa- sibling or more distant relative thers is, the ONS comments, living with them or even some-"intriguing ... It is entirely pos- one other than a relative. The Population Trends 91 is available

pendent children living in one resenting a small but growing cause lone parents have a greater need than others for more financial or practical support - such as paying guests or relatives to help bring up the

Lone mothers tend to be younger than lone fathers, with women tending to be in their early 30s, whereas men are in the early 40s - the age difference explained by the different marital status. The ONS notes that there is "tentative evidence" that the pace of increase of lone parent families may have slackened slightly in the most recent couple of years but that the prevalence is becoming an increasingly important part of our society.

1990 and the number of de- sible this is a genuine trend rep- ONS suggests this is the case be- from the Stationery Office, £19.

# Prescott seeks private investors for Tube

By Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

JOHN Prescott will today unveil plans to allow up to three private companies to invest around £7bn in modernising the Tube system. But he will tell MPs he has kept his promise to keep London Underground "publicly owned and publicly accountable".

The Deputy Prime Minister invited for one, two or three prion contracts requiring the in- and the refurbishment will investment over 15 years.

It marks a victory for Mr

improvements to escalators and May's referending. signalling systems. They will will announce that bids will be be paid by London Under- the assembly will take over reground from fare revenues to sponsibility for the London vate-sector companies to take restore the capital's main ar- Underground system, which over the concession to run the teries. London Underground may include fares policy, makstations, lines and signalling will continue to run the services ing the Mayor's role a "real job". Prescott: inviting bids

clude new rolling stock.

At a late stage, the Treasury Prescott over Treasury demands sought to give the new, directly for a more radical sell-off for the elected London Mayor and the "Tube" system. After contracts assembly more powers over the end, the infrastructure will re- private operation of Underturn to London Underground. ground lines, but Mr Prescott has The private bidders will be ensured contracts will be scaled expected to carry out a complete before the Mayor takes over in refurbishment of tunnels, with 1999, pending a yes vote in

However, the Mayor and

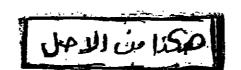


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Match 5	524	£1,698	£889,752
Match 4	24,840	£78	£1,937,520
Match 3	443,905	£10	£4.439,050
TOTALS	459,283	1	£13.317,287
Camelot Group pic. Players must be 15 a	eyes,	Presience Indian	413,311,287

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# Just have patience, Blair tells his audience

Political Editor

TONY BLAIR made a heartfelt day, when the Prime Minister and Gordon Brown met 250 those days again," he said. "The question-and-answer session.

Towards the end of a onehour meeting with a cross section business, childcare, further edu-

thing and wants it the day before yesterday," he said.

He warned that he intended short-term, short-sighted poli- we can't do it all at once." cies, for example, by relieving business of the pressure from the styles of Mr Blair and Mr high-value pound. He said the Brown could not have been

people for a post-Budget decisions that we take now, difon a long-term strategy."

during which demands were step, and as Prime Minister, be made for pensioners, charities, had to have "the courage to say, as a flash: "It's not a plea." "No". Mr Blair then launched cation, public transport and the into his version of the Monty arts, Mr Blair suddenly broke Python spoof from The Life of cellor, who disclosed that he exaway from the detailed questions. Brian, in which people had peeted an atmouncement to be "Everybody wants every- asked: "What have the Romans done for us?" He said the sions in June, following com-Government had in fact made pletion of a Government review. a start on welfare to work. to be a Prime Minister for the schools, hospitals, and penlong-term, laying down strong sions. "And we are going to do exchange, when Mr Blair said foundations, and there was no more," he said. "But it will take people who had not got their question whatever of taking time... We'll do what we can, but

Conservatives had taken short- more marked - with the Prime term decisions based on false Minister taking his jacket off prospectuses, and had created and regularly smiling at the record interest rates, record re- audience - but the session was plea for public patience yester- possessions and negative equity. "I never want to go back to banter between the two men.

At an early stage of the proceedings, Mr Brown said some ficult though they are, are based of the questions were not so much reflections on his Budget Everybody wanted money statement as early representaof community representatives from him now, but the Gov- tions for the next Budget - "if in the assembly hall of Geoffrey erroment was setting priorities. Thuy lets me give it. Mr Blair Chaucer School, south London, and was moving steadily, step by during which demands were step, and as Prime Minister, he which Mr Brown replied, quick

> The only hard news came in a throwaway line from the Chanmade on the future of state pen-At the end of the meeting,

there was another double-act questions in could send them in. Difficult questions to Number The difference between the 10," Mr Brown said. "And I will



the Prime Minister added. Double act: Tony Blair and Gordon Brown at the post-Budget session at Geoffrey Chancer School, south London, yesterday Photograph: Brian Harris

# Unions call for summit on worker rights

By Barrie Clement Labour Editor

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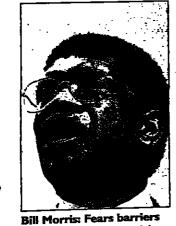
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testa a 10 de oktora

biggest financial backers last ministers over the past few night called for the first emer- months. Anxiety among union gency meeting of the TUC Con-leaders was exacerbated by gress in more than two decades news earlier this week that Government's attitude to workers' rights are realised.

tween TUC leaders and the and information. Prime Minister in Downing Street on Wednesday, the leftled Transport & General Work- vened congress" took place 22 ers' Union and the right-wing years ago to discuss the so-called Amaleamated Engineering and Electrical Union are seriously concerned that the "Fairness at the unions. Work" White Paper will prove objectionable to the union legislation which will follow it,

Bill Morris, leader of the transport workers, believes the



to trade union recognition

document will propose legislation with unacceptable barriers to union recognition and last night told a meeting of businessmen in Guernsey that he would be calling for a special TUC meeting. The engineers' leader Ken Jackson, who is equally concerned about Tony Blair's strategy, said that he would support a call for an emergency session of the union movement if the White Paper did not meet the TUC's demands.

John Monks, general secretary of the TUC, however attempted to poor cold water on the idea. He expected a White Paper in line with Labour's manifesto and there were no plans for an extraordinary meeting apart from a long-planned conference on employment rights scheduled for 6 May which would be addressed by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade.

The intended legislation was a significant part of the quid pro quo which resulted in a concerted silence among union leaders before the last election and has led to continued passivity ahead of the White Paper.

The concern of the unions follows the Downing Street meeting, but has also resulted TWO OF the Labour Party's from continuing contacts with if their worst fears about the Tony Blair had been actively opposing a European directive aimed at giving workers Following a meeting be- enhanced rights to consultation

> The TUC conference meets annually and the last "recon-Social Contract between the then Labour government and

The White Paper and the could prove to be a watershed in relations betwe leaders and the Government and could determine whether unions want to remain the main financial benefactors of the Labour Party.

Sources close to Mr Morris say he is concerned that the White Paper, due out within the next month or so, will stipulate a turnout rate in excess of 70 per cent for any ballot on union recognition. Senior officials at the union are also concerned that the document will suggest that management should be allowed to conduct ballots on "derecognition".

Other clauses causing concern would prohibit industrial action in disputes on recognition and introduce a three-year gap between votes. Sources at the T & G argue that such a law would "do as much harm as good" for employee represen-

Trade unionists generally have expressed their doubts that the Government would observe the spirit as well as the letter of the manifesto commitment. Hitherto attention has centred on whether the intended law would insist that recognition could only be granted where half the workforce voted for it, rather half those who voted. The 70 per cent threshold would be another way of ensuring overwhelming support.
Another clause exercising trade union minds is how the constituencies for ballots will be determined.

A Downing Street spokesman said that the Prime Minister had confirmed the Government's intention to fulfil the pledge on recognition, but wanted to implement the change "sensibly" and only after full consultation with both unions and business. He said the meeting on Wednesday was "friendly and positive".

# Stop cricket funds, says MP

THE England and Wales Cricket Board should be deprived of public funds until it promises to improve its equal opportunities

practice, an MP said yesterday. A Commons early day motion put down by Liberal Democrats followed an industrial tribunal victory for a former Lord's receptionist, Theresa Harrild, who said she was bullied into having an abortion and then unlawfully dismissed. The motion said public and lottery funds should be stopped until assurances were given about employment policies. Jennifer Tonge, MP for Richmond Park and the motion's author, said: "I find it inconceivable that this sort of behaviour is prevalent today. We are no longer living in the dark ages."



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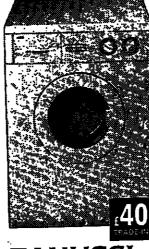
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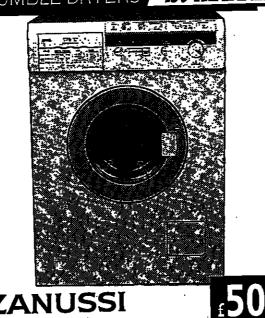
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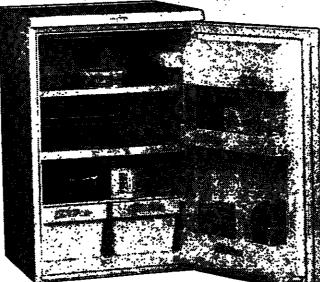
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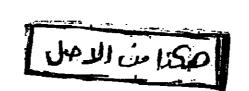
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Ligets new

News float Plan

# Jews float plan for their own TV channel

Leading Jewish broadcasters back idea which could even include a soap opera

By Rob Brown Media Editor

REMEMBER Rebbe, the Rapping Rabbi, whose stand-up that the proposed channel would act used to make sporadic appearances on our television screens? Don't worry if you missed him. He could soon have his very own show.

Britain's Jews are being urged to seize the unique opportunity presented by the digital revolution to create their own television channel.

The call came yesterday from the Institute for Jewish Policy Research (JPR), a lead- but didn't exploit them," Proing international think-tank, and is being backed by prominent Jews who hold some of the most powerful posts in British broadcasting, including David He admitted that Jewish radio Elstern, chief executive of Channel 5, Michael Green, chairman of Carlton Communications factors, a Jewish television chanand Sir Jeremy Isaacs, founding nel would probably struggle to chief executive of Channel 4.

G MACHINES

His successor Michael Grade was also Jewish. Indeed, until he Britain's five terrestrial channels

potential here for something rewhich reflects the diversity of new programmes, live broadcasts and anthologises the programming commissioned on national digital television, avail-Jewish themes over the last several decades."

report Jewish Television: looking at how they could Prospects and Possibilities, its launch their own channel. author Professor Roger Silverstone, professor of media stud- caster RTE has joined with a that a Jewish television channel enhance Jewish culture as an to negotiate cable carriage. active and creative force within British society.

ticipated in electronic media comment. He's obviously not space to recover their heritage, to redefine their identity and their channel to change his fortunes. social and cultural contribution, He was in Los Angeles yesterand to make their presence felt in the wider public sphere."

knowledged that there was a risk of creating an "electronic ghetto" though such a narrow cast ing initiative. But he envisaged avoid this danger by appealing from day one to non-Jews. With Britain's Jewish population numbering around 300,000, the network would need to have wider appeal to be commercially viable. A working party will be set up to consider what would constitute kosher television.

"I personally would love to see a soap opera which worked within the stereotypes of Jews fessor Silverstone enthused, adding: "There would doubtless also be lots of talk shows. Jews love to talk and talk is cheap TV." wasn't flourishing in Britain and that, even with rich beneget established. But he believes the idea is worth exploring.

The JPR's ideas have been quit television last year, all of discussed at two policy seminars chaired by Michael Green and had Jews in prominent positions. attended by a range of television Sir Jeremysaid: "There is the and other media professionals, who believe that changes in ally exciting and meaningful media technology provide an opportunity to use television as Jewish lives, experiences and a catalyst for reinvigorating history, and combines modest contemporary Jewish culture.

Britain is set to become the able on cable, satellite and terrestrial platforms, so many Launching the think-tank's ethnic groups are seriously

Ireland's national broadies at Sussex University, argued leading American cable network to launch Tara Television in the could "reflect, express and UK, but it has been struggling

Paul Maverick, who played the aforementioned Rapping "It is high time that Jews par-Rabbi, was not available for waiting for a Jewish television day hustling for commissions for



Powerful figures: Sir Jeremy Isaacs (top left) and Michael Green (below), along with Lord Grade and his nephew, Michael, have all held prominent positions in British broadcasting

### his independent company, Shys-Professor Silverstone, ac- ter Productions. 'This Life' gets new lease in the US By Rob Brown to get it into a large number of

THIS LIFE, the BBC's deceased hit drama series about one element of a \$600m (£360m) twentysomething London lawyers, is set to get a second life across the Atlantic on a new coast-to-coast cable channel called BBC America.

Quite how the exploits of Egg, Anna and their fellow flatmates will play in Des Moines, Iowa, remains to be seen, but the BBC and its new global partner, Discovery Communications Inc are obviously prepared to risk offending Middle America.

BBC America aims to transmit almost everything the BBC produces - including East-Enders - rather than just the prestigious costume dramas and natural history documentaries which have been most avidly snapped up in the past by the American public broadcasting service, PBS and the A&E (Arts & Entertainment) cable channel.

The new network will start on 29 March with very limited reach on digital cable, but the plan is across the globe.

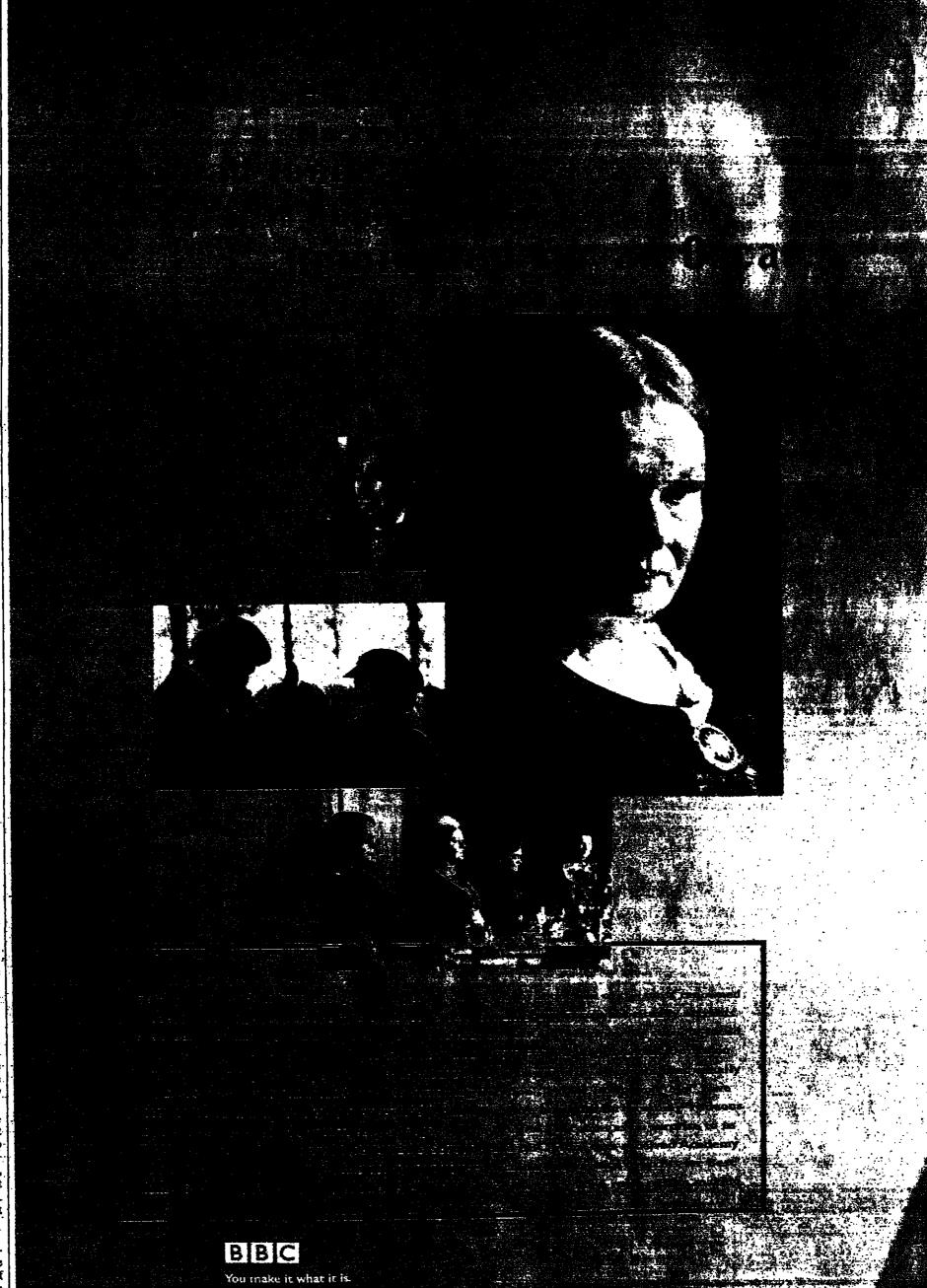
cable homes within the next few years. BBC America is just global alliance between the BBC and Discovery, which was unveiled yesterday after 18 months of torturous negotiations.

John Birt, the BBC's director-general, and Discovery's chairman and chief executive John Hendricks ceremoniously sealed the deal in a live transatlantic satellite link-up between Television Centre in west London and New York.

Mr Birt said: "This partnership will help the BBC become the world's leading global broadcaster. It is also good news for Britain, for the licencepayer, for British talent."

Mr Hendricks added: "The marriage of the BBC and Discovery brands is truly a match made in media heaven ..."

The two corporations have already teamed up no launch two new channels. People & Arts and Animal Planet, which are available now in Latin America and will be rolled out

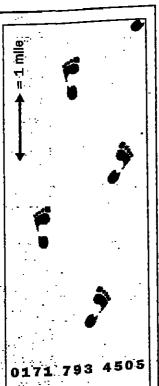




FERRY PASSENGERS face severe disruption today with the port of Calais being closed by a French workers' protest.

P&O Stena Line, the combined ferry company, said it would divert Calais services to Zeebrugge. A Dover-Calais ferry would sail at 2.30am today, with the next Dover-Calais boat not sailing until 3am tomorrow. It said it was not carrying foot passengers or day-trippers on Dover-Calais services.

Prench seafarers and dockers are staging a 24-hour strike over the proposed ending of duty free sales in Europe from next year - a move they see as a threat to jobs. They will close Calais from 5:45am today until 45am tomorrow.



# Man cleared of murder after 15 years in jail

Chime Correspondent

A MAN who spent 15 years in juil after he supposedly "confessed" to murder had his con-

viction quashed yesterday. The Court of Appeal ruled that the conviction was unsafe after new evidence showed that John Roberts, 35, had a fragile. vulnerable and suggestible mental condition and tended to be compliant with people in au-

The judges said a "grave injustice" was done to Mr Roberts who was arrested at his home in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, at the age of 19. The also criticised police from the West Mercia force for not providing him

and for holding him "incom- Daniel Sands. municado" until he suddenly changed his ples and "con-

worst and most tragic miscarriages of justice from the peri- March 1982, after he had been od before the Police and Criminal Evidence Act regulated the work of detectives.

His conviction was only overturned after his mother managed to find a sympathetic lawyer who spent several years working for his release

Mr Roberts, whose case was highlighted by The Independent in January, and a man last August pending the refernamed Richard Evans, then ral back to court by Jack Straw,

while he was being questioned any 1983 of shooting dead the dismissal of an appeal in

The body of Mr Sands was discovered in a makeshift grave in an orchard at Barleycorn The case is seen as one of the Farm in the village of Grinshill, 10 miles from Shrewsbury in missing for 18 months. Three days later, Mr Roberts was arrested and within hours, he

had admitted to the murder, Roberts, who was 17 at the time of the offence, was detained during Her Majesty's and support of a solicitor. There pleasure, and Evans was given life. The confession was the

main evidence against Roberts. Mr Roberts was released was no case to answer, said Lord Justice Henry, sitting with Mr

with a solicitor for five hours 23, were found guilty in Febru- the Home Secretary, following Justice Ognall and Mr Justice Touison. "We are conscious that the unreserved apology 1984. He remained in jail for we offer him ... will not give him several extra years because he refused to admit his guilt. back those lost years of life and liberty," they added. The Court of Appeal said that

After the judgment, Mr since the trial medical science Roberts said that it took until and the law knew much more about the phenomenon of false 1988 to get a solicitor, James confessions. "The expert evi-Wilson, and counsel who were dence is agreed as to the excesprepared to take his case on. sively compliant personality of "Basically, the police really

quent vulnerability. He pre-emme constantly. No matter what inently needed the attendance I said, they were saying something else. At the end I really were no grounds for holding him gave up as no one was listening. Safina Din, from JM Wilson The confession was consid-

intimidated me and badgered

solicitors in Birmingham, said they would be considering claiming compensation for the

# Countries posing TB threat named

By Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

tuberculosis is threatening to could threaten the rest of the trol is not strengthened. spread out of control because world because of the emerfailing to take it seriously, the World Health Organisation

warned vesterday. Five years after WHO de- cured with a cocktail of cheap WHO declared its global emerclared tuberculosis a global drugs. It is expected to infect gency in 1993 and a "golden op-

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where progress has stalled or the

emergency, the organisation nearly one billion more people portunity" to control the disease do, former director of the Pan yesterday identified 16 countries between now and 2020, of has been missed.

do, former director of the Pan American Health Organisation. whom 200 million will fall sick THE world-wide epidemic of situation is deteriorating which and 70 million will die - if con-

Two British specialists writa handful of governments are gence of drug resistant strains. ing in the International Journal The infection already kills of Tuberculosis and Lung Dismore people than Aids and easer say cases of TB world-wide malaria combined, yet it can be have risen 13 per cent since

this appellant, and his conse-

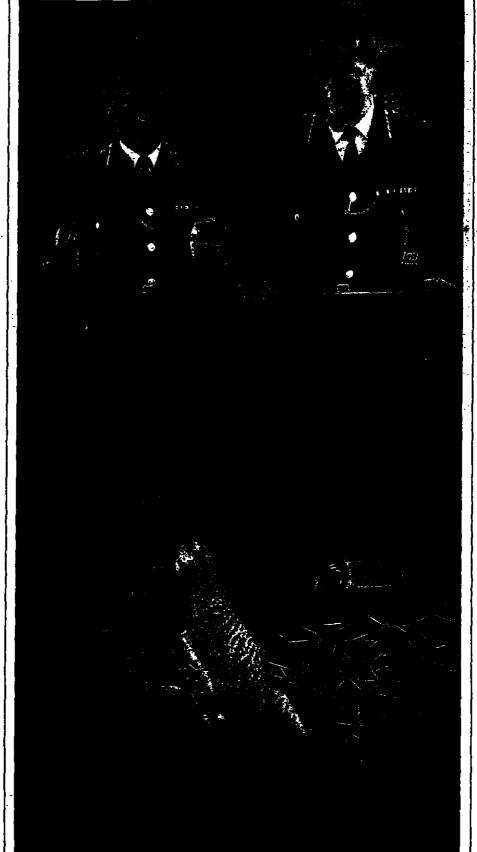
ered inadmissible and there

incommunicado."

The 16 countries in South and the Far East identified by WHO account for over half of the world's 7 million annual cas- the common cold through the es of TB. The fear is that the air when infectious people longer control efforts are de- cough, sneeze or talk. There are layed the more difficult the epi- 6,000 cases annually in Britain demic will become to contain.

American Health Organisation, said: "If we allow TB to spread America, Africa, Russia, India in any corner of the world, we do so at our own peril."

Tuberculosis is spread like and there have been outbreaks Dr Carlyle Guerra de Mace- in New York and other cities.



Lesson from nature: Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Paul Condon (right) yesterday launching plans to revitalise Neighbourhood Watch schemes in London with the help of a team of meercats. The mongoose has been chosen as the project's mascot because of its instinctive community spirit Photograph: Rui Xavier

# New universities win fight for extra student places

By Ben Russell

Education Correspondent

NEW universities and colleges share of this year's expansion in higher education. The "old" universities won less than a third of the 5,440 full-time undergraduate places on offer.

The Higher Education Funding Council for England allocated an extra 13,576 full and part-time places - at a cost of around £26m – after a slight easing of the strict cap on

university student numbers. The council said the bidding round, which will form a model for planning future university expansion, had given priority to Britain's skill shortages.

institutions which planned to in-

education and were meeting the needs of their region.

Universities expect the numyesterday secured the lion's ber of places to increase by around 70,000 over the next three years, as part of Tony Blair's promise to bring 500,000 more people into higher and further education by 2002.

More than half of the 5,440 full-time places were for socalled sub-degree Higher National Diploma courses, most of education colleges.

Sir Ron Dearing's report on higher education last year

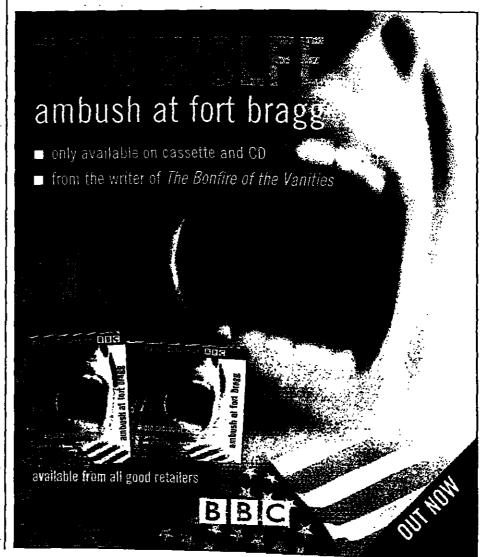
earmarked such courses for the bulk of expansion to help meet

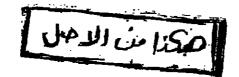
crease participation in higher were projects to expand opportunities for local communities. COM

Vice-chancellors welcomed the extra places. A spokesman for the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals said: "We are very much in favour of expansion in higher education." ■ University staff were offered a 3.8 per cent pay increase yesterday. The offer, which applies to lecturers and support staff, will be phased in over a year. Staff will get an initial two per which will be taught in further cent rise, followed by another

1.8 per cent after eight months. Peter Humphreys, chief executive of the Universities and Colleges Employers Association, said: "We have put forward an offer which we believe to be Among the biggest winners fair and equitable."









Rodent's return: The Euopean bezver, which Scottish Natural Heritage hopes to reintroduce to the central Highlands

THE BEAVER could be returning to Scotland around the millennium, after being absent from the British Isles for more than 400 years. Yesterday, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), the Government's wildlife servation arm north of the border, made it clear that it was keen to reintroduce the big rodent. But before deciding whether to

months of consultation. It needs to allay the fears of some landowners, anglers and foresters who worry that beavers' effect on trees and waterways might hit them in the pocket. If the species is reintroduced from continental Europe, probably from Scandinavia, it will be the most ambitious such exercise ever attempted in Britain. Nothing near the

go ahead, the agency launched four

again by man after being persecuted into extinction. SNH thinks Scotland could support a population of up to 1,000 beavers in the central Highlands,

Spay, Tay, Dee, Don and their tributaries without the need to create any extra habitat.

SNH has spent two years researching whether it was feasible to bring back the beaver, and has concluded that it is, Chairman Magms Magnusson said: "We need to be assured that the idea is acceptable to the people of Scotland."

A lengthy consultation document says that the reintroduction would "restore a missing element of our natural heritage". The species' remarkable abilities in felling trees and building dams could benefit other wildlife and create new wetland habitat. SNH is also convinced that what it calls "beaver-watching opportunities" would boost tourism.

The proposal has been backed by the Forestry Commission and the Scottish Wildlife Trust, a charity, which has offered one of its reserves to become home to the beaver.

bezver's size has ever been delib-If, after the consultation, SNH is erately brought back to these islands still keen to press ahead, it will need to apply for a licence to bring in the European beavers from Donald Dewar, Secretary of State for Scotland. The operation and follow-up monitoring will cost more than £100,000. along the rivers Lomond, Ness,

The dam builders

Beavers build dams from branch es, trunks, mud and stones mainly to keep their burrow and nesting chamber entrance below water lev el. They do not always build dams, but when they do it creates large ponds and small lakes along streams. They also dig canals and construct low lodges on riverbanks.

They are excellent swimme with webbed hind feet, a flat, muscular tail and waterproof fur.

■ There are two species, the North American and the European. The latter weighs up to 20kg. They eat grass, herbs and shrubs through the summer, and the bark of broad-leaved trees, especially birch and aspen, in winter. One bezver is estimated to fell two tons of timber a year in its quest for food, but they do not attack conifers. Their numbers were drastically reduced across Europe by hunting for their fur and the musk from their anal scent gland, which had medicinal uses. Since 1920 several reintroductions have been carried

out, half have proved successful.

# Whitehall sets tough targets on expulsions

Education Correspondent

She Paul Comfon (right)

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LOCAL authorities will have to set tough targets for cutting the . number of expulsions under a stream education. new government drive, announced yesterday, to improve bad behaviour in schools.

Estelle Morris, the education minister, said that to combat the Birmingham, teachers provide spiralling numbers of children mentors for boys at risk of exsuspended or expelled, educa pulsion. tion officers should recruit and work alongside police, social workers and health experts.

Councils will have to publish plans for keeping problem pupils in school, and for dealing with those who have been expelled. Ministers hope to encourage authorities to follow the example of partnership projects involving the different agencies, such as those pioneered in Birmingham and Leeds, which have attempted to head off problems with pupils

before they are thrown out of school for good. Ministers also want councils to track expelled pupils' progress and to try to get the children back into main-

In Leeds, schools operate an early warning system, including a database to monitor truancy and bad behaviour, while in

Ms Morris said: "Rising numbers of permanent exclusions are of real concern. There were 12,500 exclusions in 1995-96, an increase of 1,400 over the previous year. We are determined to achieve a reduction in levels of exclusion and truancy."

She added: "There will always be some pupils with behavioural difficulties who will be excluded ... I also expect plans to include clear and effective arrangements for educating these pupils, keeping track of their progress when they are out of school, and reintegrating them into mainstream schools. where and when appropriate."

But Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, is not in favour of the move: "The idea is wholly misconceived and entirely inappropriate," he said. "Cases for expulsion should be judged on their merits, not on whether artificial targets will be met.

"This wholly unrealistic attitade to serious pupil indiscipline, if it prevails, will act as a serious deterrent for young people considering teaching as a career."

Local authority leaders warned that expulsions could increase still further if proposed changes to regulations were not reversed. The School Standards Bill removes the right of local authorities to veto expulsions, a change which has prompted anger among council leaders. Ministers are currently con-

sidering amending the Bill to make schools consult local education officers during a 14-day cooling off period before expulsions go ahead. Graham Lane, education

chairman of the Local Government Association, said: "I think this could reduce or certainly stabilise exclusions. If the Government does not adopt the system they will quadruple the exclusions."

Education officers acknowledge that children face an uphill task in getting another school place after they have been expelled. For many the alternative is a few hours a week teaching at home, or a place at a special referral centre.

Local authority leaders say that half a day's home trition a week can be as expensive as a full-time place at school, while sending a child to a referral centre costs up to £12,000 a year.



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# Clinton allies up attack on Willey

By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

THE CAMPAIGN to discredit Kathleen Willey, the former White House volunteer who gave a television interview accusing President Bill Clinton of groping her, was ratcheted up further yesterday with the publication of counter-accusations from a former friend of hers and more suggestions that one of her motives was money.

The one-time friend, Julie Sicele, released a sworn statement in which she accused Ms Willey of asking her to lie on her behalf to back up her story about what happened in the Oval Office on 29 November 1998. Ms Willey says Mr Clinton kissed and fondled her against her will when she went to ask him for a paid job.

According to Ms Steele, Ms Willey telephoned her last April after she had been approached by a reporter from Newsweek magazine. She said she had told him about her encounter in the White House and wanted Ms Steele to corroborate her story.

As well as telling the reporter, Michael Isikoff, that she had told her of the incident immediately afterwards. Ms

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should describe her demeanour as "upset", "humiliated", "disappointed" and "barassed".

In the statement, Ms Steele says: "I told Ms Willey that I could not make such statements because she ... had never told me of any sexual advances made by President Clinton. She repeatedly assured me that any discussion with Mr Isikoff would be 'off the record' and that it would be all right if I lied to him."

Ms Steele says she did meet Mr Isikoff, and she did lie. But . when Mr Isikoff called her a few weeks later to check back and say that the report would be published, she retracted every-Ms Steele's contribution to

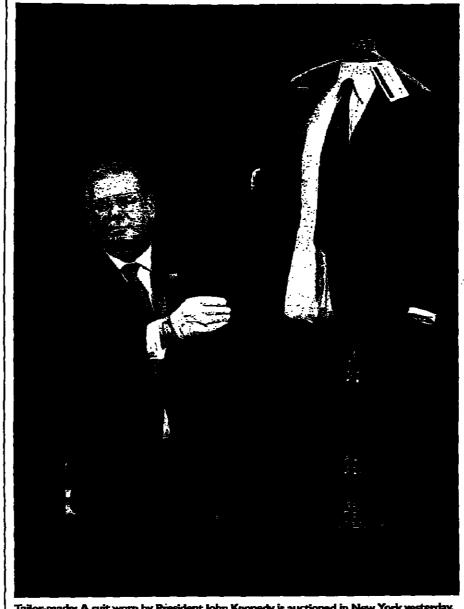
the Willey saga has been problematical ever since. In her television interview, Ms Willey claimed Ms Steele had been nobbled. "The White House", she said, "wanted to try to discredit me and they found a pawn in her". Angered by this, Ms Steele appended a short note to the statement she published yesterday, saying that she

was "nobody's pawn". As a sworn legal statement, the document published yester-

Steele was to say that she day may give Ms Steele's version more credence. But her claims have been known for weeks. It is also clear that she is not in a position to judge whether Ms Willey's allegations against Mr Clinton are true or not, only that she was asked to lie.

Also yesterday, Phil Bunton, the editor of the supermarket tabloid, the Star, said that he had spent six months negotiating with Ms Willey's lawyer for an interview with her, but baulked at the asking price - \$300,000 (£184,000). His offer of \$50,000 was rejected. Mr Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett, charged after Ms Willey's television interview that she had been trying to negotiate a book deal for a similar amount. The sum of \$300,000 almost matches a debt inherited by Ms Willey from her late husband.

Today, the Clinton camp is expected to step up the pressure on the President's accusers by releasing transcripts of crossexaminations of Paula Jones and Ms Willey in the Ms Jones sexual-harassment case. Mr Bennett's action is seen as retaliation for the release by Ms Jones's lawyers last week of 700 pages of testimony, including much of Mr Clinton's.



Tailor-made: A suit worn by President John Kennedy is auctioned in New York yesterday. It was expected to fetch \$15,000 but sold for \$5,000

Photograph: Bebeto Matthews/AP

CAMCORDERS

# -nch right Baseball team owners allow Murdoch to join their club

in Miami

WHAT does the man who has everything buy? A baseball team. Rupert Murdoch will purchase the Los Angeles Dodgers for a reported \$311m (£195m) to \$350m after overcoming one of those annoying obstacles that the seriously wealthy despise - getting

His Fox group needed, and finally got yesterday the goahead from the 30 owners of

Major League baseball teams. Despite objections that owning a team would be a conflict of interests for Fox since it already controls television transmission rights for 22 Major League teams, baseball's Ownership Committee voted overwhelmingly - reportedly by 27 to two, with one abstention - to approve the purchase. In the end it came down to a battle of the billionaire media moguls. Mr Murdoch felt confident enough to stay away from the meeting in a swanky beachfront hotel in the Florida city of St Petersburg. His arch-rival Ted Turner did not

Mr Turner, who launched CNN, is vice-chairman of Time-Warner and who owns the Atlanta Braves baseball team, does not normally grace the baseball owners' meetings with his presence. But he felt enough about Mr Murdoch's latest US invasion to end his decadelong boycott of the Ownership Committee. After all, he once compared Mr Murdoch with Hitler. "Like the late Führer." he said then, "he controls the media for his own personal benefit. He is crazed for mon-

ey and power. I fear him and I don't trust him." Murdoch aides iater noted that Mr Turner had used the Olympic Games in Atlanta two years ago to get a swish new home for his Atlanta Braves - a partly chopped-off (for-baseball) Olympic Stadium.

Mr Turner's remarks to the meeting in St Petersburg yesterday were not revealed. But he and at least two other team owners feared Mr Murdoch would play by his own rules and use Fox's influence in television transmission deals to gain leverage over teams beyond the

Dodgers. One owner originally wary of Mr Murdoch's purchase, John Moores of the San Diego Padres, said he feared Mr Murdoch's involvement, and increased influence by Fox, would further drive up baseball's skyhigh salary scale. A dispute between owners and players. who wanted more money and less restrictions, shut Major League baseball three years ago, a catastrophic event for baseball fans said to have caused a baby boom among some and marriage breakdowns

among others. In the end, Mr Moores reportedly voted in favour. Only Mr Turner's Atlanta Braves and the Chicago White Soxvoted against and the New York Mets abstained, according to sources at the meeting. The majority apparently believed Mr Murdoch's knowledge and clout in the broadcasting business would be a boost for baseball. Under the Ownership Committee statutes, he needed. the approval of 20 of the 30 current team owners.

Strike out, page 19

# Small bookshops sue the big boys

THEATRE

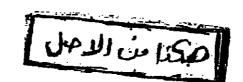
TOKENS

voluntary agreements with six major publishers and a recent \$25m (£15m) settlement from Penguin Putnam for breaking the agreement. But a 17-year investigation of publishers by the US Federal Trade Commission ended in 1996 without detertion provisions were being

Avin Domnitz, executive director of the ABA, said: "We have to ask whether America is to be a cultural free market place of ideas, or concentrated in the hands of very few. The independents represent diversity."

Barnes & Noble, which opened 65 new shops last year, said in a statement that they followed "accepted industry practices" but would not comment





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# System Property I females there is a supplied to the state of

FRANCE faces a potentially explosive crisis today which could transform the country's political landscape in dangerous and unpredictable ways.

Bowing to an open revolt by their own members, the French centre-right parties appeared. ready last night to perform a moral and political volte-face and permit local alliances with the ultra-right National Front. This would break a 10-year philosophical and strategic taboo on dealings with Jean-Marie Le Pen's ultra-national-

ist and covertly racist party.
The Socialist Prime Minis-

ter, Lionel Jospin, solemnly warned the "traditional" right against taking such a step, which, he said, would threaten democracy and the Republic itself. The bishop of Nimes, in the south of France, said deals with the NF would amount to "prostitution". The centre-left newspaper Le Monde reported that the French "traditional" right was in a state of "utter panic", following local election losses last weekend. If it made deals with the NF when regional assemblies meet all over France today, it would have reached its "darkest day". In a signed front-page editorial, the paper's editor, Jean-Marie

on proposed monument

Change ends taboo on deals with racist old position after the meeting party. John Lichfield, in Paris, reports

Colombani, compared the fastmoving muddle of recent days to the crises which had brought down French democratic institutions in the past. It might even become necessary, he said, to abandon the "devastated landscape" of the Fifth Republic and move to a new political system, as Italy had recently done.

The immediate issue at stake is the fate of maybe half a dozen regional governments, which are, in themselves, of limited political importance. The opaque results of a regional election last Sunday have precipitated a crisis between the weak and discredited leadership of the parties of the "respectable right" and their own grassroots members: a crisis which has

been long in the making. On Sunday, a coalition of the left topped the poll in 11 out of 21 regions in France proper but won a full majority in only one. In the other regions there was a right-wing "majority" but a majority split between the "traditional right", the Gaullist RPR and the smaller centreright parties grouped in the

UDF, and the National Front. Before the elections, centreright leaders swore that they would make no deals with the NF to stay in power in any region. Where the left topped the

In at least five regions local Ganifist and UDF leaders have repudiated this promise. They have entered sometimes secret, and sometimes open, negotiations with the NF for ultra-right support when the re-gional assemblies meet to choose their presidents today. Despite dire warnings, and

a minority government.

the threat of expulsion, already carried out against one former general-secretary of the RPR, it became clear yesterday that deals were going ahead at local level in Languedoc-Roussillon, Picardy, Upper Normandy, Burgundy, the Pyrenees and, possibly, the greater Paris area, the Re-de-France.

Local leaders were summoned to Paris yesterday to discuss ways of halting this insurrection. Officially, the RPR and UDF re-stated their

no regional governments would be formed with NF support Le Monde reported, however, that centre-right leaders had been forced secretly to accept a compromise. There would be so formal deals with the NF; but if centre-right regional presidents were mysteriously elected with far-right votes, that would poll, it would be allowed to form be accepted. The alternative, it was feared, was outright revolt.

There were similar accords with a then weaker NF in the late 1980s, which are generally reckoned to have boosted the Front and damaged the traditional right. There have been similar rows between the centre-right leaders and the grassroots in recent years. The present crisis is made more

explosive by two factors. First, there is the strength of the Front which has now taken 15 per cent of the vote in each of the last three nationwide polls. Second, there are the weakness and internal dissensions of the RPR and UDF. which have not recovered from the humiliating defeat in parliamentary elections last year. Deals with the NF, intended to keep the French centre-right parties together, could just as easily split them apart.



Flag-waving: After promising not to, the right may ally with Le Pen

Photograph: Charles Platiau/Reuters

# Germans seek atonement, but final solution eludes them

### By Imre Karacs

GERMAN efforts to find a fitting display of atonement for degenerating into a farce. Not with this horror artistically". for the first time, the designs of the monument to be erected in Berlin in memory of the victims of the Final Solution have united politicians and the chattering classes in opposition.

Only weeks away from the Günter Grass: Declared war his weight behind those urging competition, Mr Kohl is back-

a pause for thought. In an interview with Frankfurter Allgemeine. Mr Diepgen complained that not one of the four shortlisted designs had convinced the Holocaust are in danger of him that it was "possible to deal

The mayor, who heads a Christian Democrat-led coalition in the city in partnership with the Social Democrats, was scathing about the version closest to the heart of the Chancellor, Helmut Kohl. After decision, Berlin's mayor, Eber- vetoing the giant tombstone hard Diepgen, yesterday threw that had won the first artistic

ing an equally vast labyrinth of more to say "about the inner 4,000 concrete pillars devised by conflicts of today's generation two Americans, Richard Serra and Peter Eisenman. Those walking through the narrow passages, to be erected on the site of Hitler's devastated chan-

cellery, are supposed to feel overwhelmed and disorientated. But Mr Diepgen said all he could see in this design was "monumentality", and virtually no reference to the Holocaust. "It could be a memorial for

a lot of things," he said. All four of the Star of David. entries lying in front of the panel of independent judges had

in relation to their parents' than about Nazi crimes.

The other options are a plan by Jochen Gerz to install 39 poles inscribed with the word "Why" in different languages, a broken wall designed by Daniel Libeskind; and 18 massive sandstone blocks, by Gesien Weinmiller, which, viewed from a certain angle, will coalesce into an abstract image

Mr Kohl is urging a quick solution so that after 10 years of and cemeteries already bon-

debate work can begin. The ouring Nazi victims. Intellectuground-breaking ceremony, on former no-man's land between the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag, is set for January 1999, the 54th anniversary of

the liberation of Auschwitz. If there is a further twist to this long-running saga, it could rob the city of the central monument it allegedly needs when the government returns to the capital in 1999. But that might not be a bad thing, argue the project's opponents, pointing to the numerous statues, miseums

als who started the campaign for the mother of all memorials, "the final solution to the Final Solution", have turned against the project, recoiling at the "monumental cliches" that have sprung from the fertile minds of fellow artists.

The writer Gunter Grass, self-appointed conscience of the nation and former leading monumentalist, press-ganged 18 other intellectuals earlier this year into an "open letter" declaring war on the latest outbursts of architectural pathos.

Mayor Diepgen has travelled to Israel to canvass opinions, only to find indifference. The Jewish community in Germany is divided. Berlin's Jews cannot decide whether they should be flattered or repelled by such a grandiose scheme, not dissimilar in scale to the art of the Third Reich.

"I don't need this monument," says Ignatz Bubis, leader of the Jewish community in Germany. Whether Jews were able live without it was never in doubt. The real question is: can

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# Anger as Hong Kong press chief beats law

By Stephen Vines in Hong Kong

ARE NEWSPAPER proprictors above the law in Hong Kong? Or. does this only apply to those serving on official Chinese bodies?

These questions arise following the appearance in court yesterday of three newspaper executives accused of a conspiracy to defraud, by scrupulously observed. artificially inflating the circulation figures of the Englishlanguage Hong Kong Standard newspaper.

The executives were charged after an investigation by the Independent Commis-(ICAC), which found that they had conspired with Sally Aw Sian, the newspaper's owner, to defraud the advertisers. However, no charges were laid against Ms Aw, one of Hong Kong's best-known newspaper owners - and a prominent member of the Chinese People's Consultative Committee, a political advisory organ of the Chinese government.

Although the ICAC has made public its allegation against Ms Aw, the Department of Justice has declined to Secretary for Justice". act. This has caused uproar in Hong Kong, where preserving the rule of law is seen widely as a litmus test of the credibility of the post-colonial administration.

Demonstrators gathered outside the Department of Justice's office yesterday to protest, Martin Lee, the leader of the Democratic Party, said the failure to prosecute "cries

out for an explanation". Even normally docile members of the non-elected Provisional Legislature have voiced

their misgivings and will be holding a meeting with Elise Leung, the Secretary of Justice, next Monday to seek an

ment directly on the case but said, "the decision to prosecute or not rests entirely with the

Last week, Mr Tung pro-

Yesterday, Ms Leung's office issued a statement saving "this department does not consider the personal connections. or political status of any suspect. In this particular case, these principles have been

Ms Aw controls the Sing Tao publishing empire which used to back the staunchly anti-Communist government in Tai-wan. It switched support to Peking more than a decade ago. The Sing Tao group then sion Against Corruption became the first overseas publisher allowed to publish a newspaper in mainland China.

The situation is further complicated by the strong links between Ms Aw's family and Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's Chief Executive. His family also used to be firm supporters of Taiwan and he sat on the Sing Tao board of directors for eight years.

Mr Tung declined to com-

voked protests when he dismissed another controversial decision. This time, it was not to prosecute the New China News Agency, which used to act as Peking's de facto embassy when Hong Kong was still a British colony and was widely believed to monitor the political

stance of Hong Kong people. The agency had breached the privacy laws but did not even get a reprimand. Mr Tung said that the matter was a



yesterday over the body of Albanian Qerim Muriqi, 52, who . was killed by Serbian police on Wednesday during a rally in Pec, 50 miles west of the Kosovo capital, Pristina. Tension has been high in the Kosove region since the Serbian police launched a brutal crackdown against ethnic Albanians

Photograph: Anja

earlier this month

# Pass the hairdryer, my peiga is just too much

The Italians have got a thing about hair. I know this because a few years ago there was an advert on television for dandruff shampoo, or split ends, in which two glamorous professional women (the sort of people the papers here like to call donna manager to make them sound efficient and

small talk across their desks. "Che stress!" the first one sighed melodramatically, even though she looked drop-dead gorgeous and unruffled by life's little vicissitudes.

important) were exchanging

"What is it? Your computer?" asked the other.

"No, it's my bair!" Although this advert seemed hilarious, the Italians I knew thought it was a perfectly ordinary conversation for two immaculate fake blondes to be





having in the course of a morning's work. Can't stop worrying

fectly plausible to us, they said. I also know the Italians bave a thing about hair because of a curious recent opinion poll conducted by the state broadcasting network teletext service. in which viewers were asked to name their favourite pastime.

The outright winner, picked by 68 per cent of respondents, was going for a hairdo.

Not watching football, not cating pasta, but a hairdo. I have visions of legions of Italians staring at themselves in the mirror each morning and wondering how many more days they will have to wait before they can at last justify another scintillating trip to the hairdressers'.

t last I understand why my own barber makes about her hair? That sounds perno effort to lure me in when I pass his shop. He must assume I'll be leaping into his reclining seat as soon as I can

> slot it in to my hectic schedule. After all, the establishments near my house are usually brimming with customers demanding a cut, or blonde highlights, or just a "do", known in Italian as a piega. To this Anglo-Saxon sensibility, a piega is hell on a head - lots of useless bouffing in a confection that doesn't so much resemble hair as an 18thcentury wig. But Italians love it, and are apparently willing to pay extortionate sums to have one as often as possible (my wife has had to scour every hair salon in central Rome to find one that

will cut her hair without insisting on the piega too).

So diffuse is the culture of the piega that one specialist salon operating near our house until recently even offered them to dogs. Outside, the shop sign announced canine stripping, trimming, toelettaggio and a host of other services, while inside the hapless pooches were chained to a medieval washbasin, given the once-over with shears, shampoo, conditioner and blowdryer, and then, the ordeal over, were served a congratulatory bowl of Weetabix

out of industrial-sized sacks.

have to confess my understanding of the Italian obession with hair is probably more acute because I used to have a thing about hair myself. A couple of years ago, I became convinced I was losing great clumps of it. A kindly doctor eventually laughed in my face and application of gel, resulting and told me to take life a little easier, but for a while I was scrupulously examining the manes of all around me to see who did, and who did not, have a Hair Loss Problem.

I recall a trip to Palermo. Sicilians are on average shorter than most Italians, so I could

gaze down on their scalps with ease. I failed to enlighten myself much on my own hair loss, but I did see the most extraordinary parade of hairdressing artistry, particularly among the men - dark curls perfectly gelled into place, thinning patches brilliantly camouflaged with what meagre streaks were still available. I saw evidence of hours of painstaking labour, of visits to specialists, of scores of bottles on bathroom counters, of combs surreptitiously pulled out for little touch-ups. It had

nd where there is love there may be fear. I ruspect Italians are also scared stiff by the whole subject. This is a country where ap-

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to be a labour of love.

mount importance, but one where the right hairdo requires a balancing act of singular delicacy. Look too young and nobody will take you seriously. Look too old and your bella figuna is shot to pieces. Thus the media magnate turned politician, Silvio Berlusconi, always insists on being photographed from his right (he looks less bald that way). Young people wanting to get ahead, meanwhile, either have their hair cropped conservatively short (men), or else (women) go in for the curlers-and-blowdry jobs one might have expected of their grandmothers. Foreigners like me can't hope to compete with this capillary obsession. I'm waiting for hats to come back into fashion.

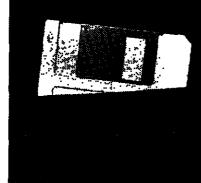
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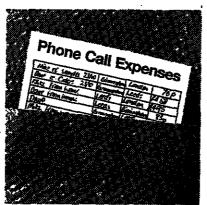
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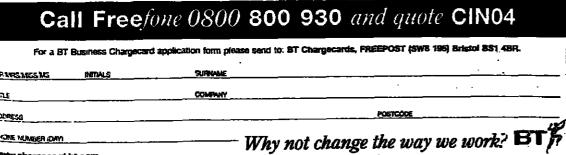
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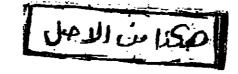
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# Rugby boss forces Mandela into court

in Johannesburg

THE BITTER relations between the South African government and national rugby boss Dr Louis Luyt plummeted to new depths yesterday when an angry President Nelson Mandela became the first head of state forced to defend his political actions in court.

Before taking the witness stand at Pretoria High Court, President Mandela said his blood boiled at being forced into the chamber by the controversial Dr Luyt to be grilled about his decision to set up a commission to investigate alleged racism. graft and nepotism in rugby, the game Dr Luyt has been accused of operating like a personal fiefdom.

Before taking the stand, the president said he had grave reservarious about the unprecedented order for him to appear in court because it might open floodgates by which all presidential decisions might be challenged and government undermined.

The summons to the president, which has shocked many legal experts, was issued by Judge William de Villiers. The president's advisers argue that the judge is right-wing and reactionary, pointing out that he opposed the admission of blacks to the Pretoria Bar Council until the early 1980s and was conservative in apartheid era political trials...

Yesterday, Dr Luyt and President Mandela shook hands and chatted during intervals. But the heady early days of the new democracy when rugby proved a unifying force were

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long gone and there was no mistaking the underlying animosity.

Dr Luyt has accused sports minister Steve Tshwete of conducting a vendetta against him and is arguing in court that President Mandela did not properly consider the arguments for a commission but simply

rubber stamped Mr Tshwete's decision. He is also insisting that his South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu) is a private association and should be free from gov-

ernment interference. Yesterday President Mandela insisted that he alone had made the

decision to form a commission and seemed lacking. "The feeling is that that a sport which had played such a huge role in nation building could not be seen as a private matter, particularly when a cloud of suspicion hung over those who ran it. He said that Sarfu could not be left to reg-

ulate itself when internal democracy

Louis is a pitiless dictator," South Africa's first democratically elected president told the court. "No one can stand up to him."

President Mandela said he had risked his political future after his release by promoting "the game of

Mandela, surrounded by body guards and journalists at Pretoria High Court, said his blood boiled at being called to court

the enemy" - rugby is a near religion to Afrikaners. Once he said Dr Luyt had played a "critical" role in transforming rugby. Now little was being done to bring rugby to the townships.

"I would never have imagined that Louis would be so insensitive, ungrateful and disrespectful to say when I gave my affidavit [submitted earlier to the court] I was lying," said the president, standing just feet from Dr Luyt.

Fink Haysom, President Mandela's legal adviser, said he could find no precedent within or outside South Africa for a president being called to court in this manner. He said he was appalled that President Mandela's written affidavit was being questioned. It was tantamount to saying the president was lying under oath.

The president's supporters, who packed the court, regarded the entire proceeding as disrespectful and a little humiliating to Mr Mandela

The president said he was attending out of respect for the administration of justice. But it was clear he was keen to demonstrate enness. But why, he asked Judge Villiers, was Dr Luyt resisting transparency. "It gives the message he is hiding something," he said.

protest vote recorded in the normally

rubber-stamp NPC. These protests

are seen as voicing widespread com-

plaints about crime and corruption.

### Serbs to pull out forces

The Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, agreed to withdraw his special forces from Kosovo, the German and French foreign ministers said. The French minister, Hubert Vedrine, said he supports a negotiated settlement of the Kosovo crisis with Kosovo Albanian leaders. Mr Milosevic said some of the Serb forces that killed 80 ethnic Albanians in retaliation for the deaths of four Serb policemen in February had already been withdrawn. -AP, Belgrode

### Fall-out in Germany

A train carrying spent nuclear fuel began its controversial journey across Germany towards a waste-disposal site. A force of 20,000 police and troops are expected to protect the convoy, whose progress environmentalists have sworn to disrupt. The annual trip of waste to dumps in the north has become the focus of protests against the nuclear industry. Last year 20,000 environmentalists delayed the journey by undermining roads and chaining themselves to rails. This years the convoy left two days early and is racing to reach the Westphalian town of Ahaus before the gathering army of protesters. — Imre Karacs, Bonn

### Chinese going into orbit

China plans to launch a manned spacecraft within the next few years. "We will [also] launch a small lunar probe," Ma Xingrui, vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Space Technology. told an international meeting of space scientists.

- Teresa Poole, Peking

### American dies in all-out fight

A thirty-year-old American, Doug Dedge, a father of five, collapsed with fatal injuries after taking part in what was billed as "a fight without rules" in Kiev, capital of Ukraine.

--- Phil Reeves, Moscow

# China shocked as PM shoots from the hip

By Teresa Poole n Peking

IN A BREAKTHROUGH for Chinese communists, the new prime minister yesterday showed that the

medium really can be the message. Zhu Rongji, with humour and only minimal propaganda rhetoric, took to the stage for a live-broadcast press conference at which he fielded questions on the pro-democracy protests in 1989, and on elections in China. He promised to "blaze my trail" with a bold programme including the overhaul of ndustry, the civil and medical services.

represented a seismic shift from his correct head again with a question universal suffrage. "Of course I'm in predecessor, the hardline Li Peng. Mr Li's press occasions have involved preselected journalists asking pre-cleared questions. Mr Zhu took anything that came his way, an approach which has not been seen since before 1989.

Nor would many of the topics discussed normally be aired on Chinese television. Mr Zhu was asked about 1958, when he was condemned as a "rightist" for criticising the Communist government and sent to the countryside. "I have learned a lot from on that matter", he said. that experience," he said. "But that experience was also unpleasant, so I

about whether the 4 June 1989 crackdown was a "historical burden" for the new government announced at the National People's Congress (NPC), which ended yesterday. Mr Zhu, who in 1989 was mayor of Shanghai, is credited with calming protesters in the city by promising not to send in the

army. Yesterday he toed the official

line on the "resolute" measures which

"stabilised" the country. The party had

already "drawn a correct conclusion

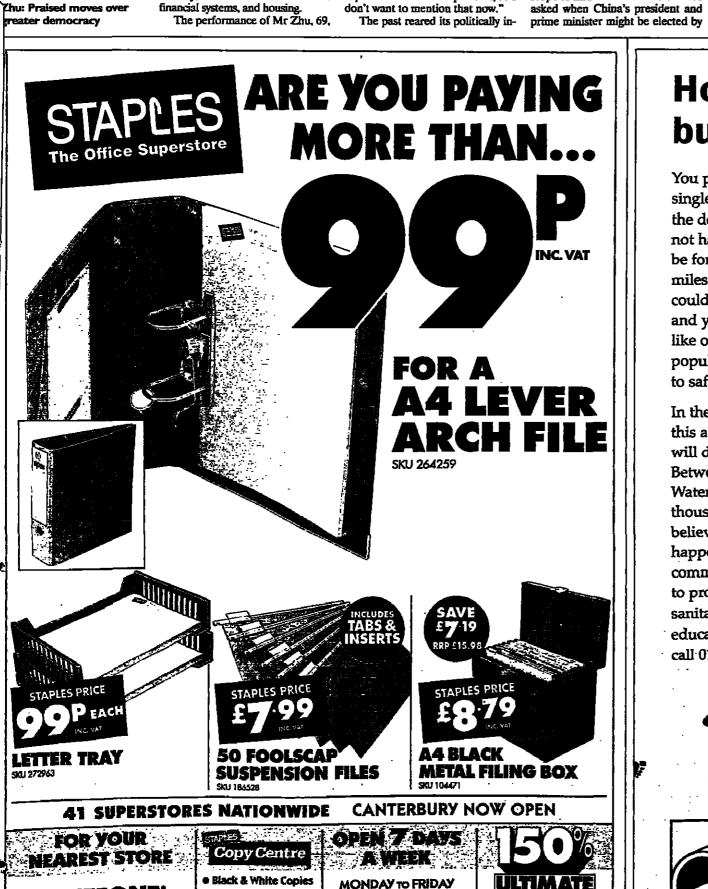
The future gave Mr Zhu more scope to find his own words. He was asked when China's president and

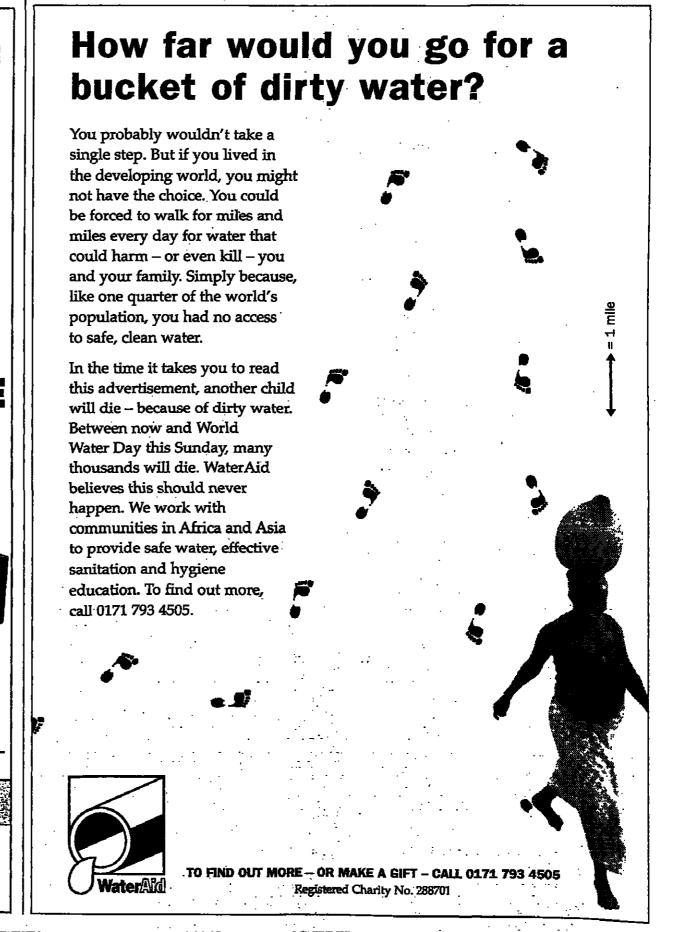
favour of democratic election," he said, praising village elections and elections inside enterprises. But the election of China's leaders involved "political restructuring, so that should be done according to legal procedures". And as for for the timing: "It's hard now for me to predict when such an election can take place".

The NPC delegates themselves yesterday put on an unusual show of what voting can be like. When the results of a vote on the report from the Supreme People's Procuratorate flashed up on the board, a record 44 per cent of delegates had said "no", or abstained. This was the highest

Mr Zhu reiterated his goals of overhauling state businesses and the creaking financial system and cutting the number of central government civ-

il servants by half by the end of this year. And he joked that his picture on the cover of Time was "more goodlooking" than the one in Newsweek, a slick way of letting the world know that he reads such international publications. The only thing he feared was letting down the people. "I will devote myself to the people and the country until the last day of my life," he said.





# Pentagon hackers caught in cyberspace

n Jerusalem

AN ISRAELI teenager is under house arrest accused of carrying out the most sustained and successful attack ever on the computer system of the Pentagon.

Ehud Tenebaum, who calls himself "the Analyzer." and two accomplices, all aged 18, told police they did not penetrate the systems for personal gain. The US Justice Department says



The Analyzer: 'Damn good, but very dangerous'

the arrest is the culmination of several weeks of investigations into a series of computer intrusions into US military systems.

The Pentagon says the intrusions were apparently aimed at systems that contained unclassified personnel and payroll records. But a spokesman said the Israeli hacker's work was the most organised and systematic attack the Pentagon has seen.

Janet Reno, the US Attorney general said: "We will work around the world and in the depths of cyberspace to investigate and prosecute those who attack computer networks."

In Israel, Linda Menuhin, the police spokeswoman, said no charges had been brought against three suspects being

later identified by the US Justice Department as the leader of the group. After holding the teenagers at a police station in Bat Yam, a southern suburb of Tel Aviv, police confiscated their passports and forbade any contact between them.

In an interview with the Internet magazine AntiOnline, before he was caught, the Analyzer said the computer penetrations were innocent but added that he had concentrated on US govemment sites "because I hate orpanisations". He said: "Chaos. I think it is a nice idea." He also claimed to know the way into some 400 US Defense Department computer systems.

Two other teenagers, arrested in California, were allegedly tutored by the Analyzer.

The first report of a computer break-in came on 3 February from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's plasma energy laboratory. Penetrations were then reported at a series of military locations, including Nasa.

Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, when asked what he thought of Ehud Tenebaum, said: "Damn good." But he quickly added: "Very dangerous, too."

BOSTON (AP) — Federal prosecutors have charged a teenager with shutting down an airport communications system.

The Department of Justice said the unnamed boy, from Massachusetts, has agreed to plead guilty. He broke into a Bell Atlantic computer system on 10 March last year, stalling communication between the control tower and aircraft at Worcester Airport for six hours. Power was lost at the control tower and 600 nearby houses were without their telephone service.



A cat strays onto the red carpet at the presidential palace as India's new government is sworn in Photograph: AP

## India's new rulers recruit unlikely partners

By Peter Popham in Delhi

SO LARGE and various was the new Indian government sworn in yesterday that the ceremony had to be moved out of the presidential palace and into the forecourt to accommodate representatives

In its effort to get a majority, the Hindu nationalist BJP did pre-election deals

with 12 other parties, including Socialthe former movie queen Jayalalitha. Still more parties and independents were roped in when the election results left the BJP many seats short of what it needed. But even so the government's majority will be wafer thin. "If one MP answers the call of nature," a BJP spokesman quipped, "the nature of the house will change."

To keep his many friends happy, the

ists, neo-fascists, Sikh nationalists and payee, has appointed a 42-strong coun-

To keep the support of its partners, the BJP has had to drop all its controversial policy goals, such as building a Hindu temple on the site of the demolished mosque in Ayodhya. But several party hardliners have made it into government, including the Hindu nun Uma Bharti, notorious for her anti-Muslim rhetoric.

# US to echo Cook's tough talk on Israel

By Rupert Conwell

ISRAEL heard it this week from Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and reacted in fury. Now it may be about to hear very much the same thing, though perhaps a mite more diplomatically, from its closest ally, the United States.

Within the next fortnight, and perhaps sooner, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is expected to launch Washington's latest initiative to revive the search for a Middle East peace settlement. And just as Mr Cook did amid such tumult on his trip to Israel, it is likely to urge a freeze on new Israeli settlements and more troop withdrawals - "redeployment" is the technical phrase - from the West Bank.

For all the point-scoring Tory talk of "diplomatic disaster" after Mr Cook was heckled at Har Homa, and brusquely omitted from Benjamin Netanyahu's dinner arrangements, neither the US nor a single country from the European Union on whose behalf Mr Cook went to the Middle East this week has voiced

Tory foreign secretaries be- Madeleine Albright: Will fore him have deemed the settlements "illegal". The French say Israel's reaction was "so exaggerated" it could only reflect some snarl-up in internal Israeli

Tony Blair, meanwhile, who pays his own visit to Israel next month, again expressed his "absolute support" for the Foreign Secretary, and through his spokesman insisted that "notwithstanding the complication which arose", Europe still had a role to play in the search for peace.

Indeed, Mr Cook may have deliberately done Washington's dirty work for it. Nothing has yet emerged about Mrs Albright's new proposals, nor whether they will first be canvassed privately with the Israelis

is they will resemble those of Mr Cook, when he sketched out Europe's role earlier this month. London and Washington consulted beforehand then, and are poised to do so again 4: now, and before Mr Blair goes to the Middle East.

Their ultimate goal is a bargain: a fair deal for the Palestinians in return for security for Israel. First, confidence building measures, and then a start on the most difficult problems. the so-called "final status" issues which include Jerusalem.

The US has aircady signalled its displeasure at the continuing settlements and the snail's pace at which Mr Netanyahu is implementing troop



urge freeze on settlements

withdrawals - to the point where President Bill Clinton refused even to meet the Israeli Prime Minister when the latter was last in the US. Yesterday, the State Department indicated its own broad agreement with Mr Cook's goals, underlining its "great confidence in him personally and his intentions".

The crucial question now, as always, is whether Mr Clinton is willing, or able, to face down his domestic Jewish lobby and exert real pressure. Mr Netanyahu's calculation is that he cannot, especially amid the controversy swirling around the President's private life. EU and British officials recognise that unless he does, there is no hope

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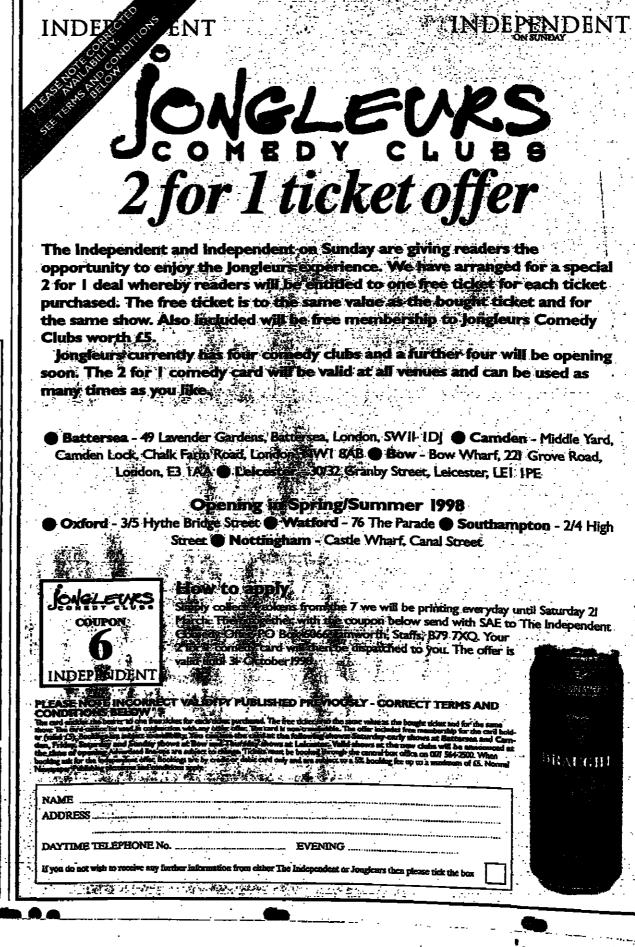


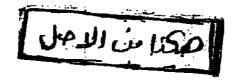


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# allow Magnolia Man-if she says so

HEAD bowed, he approaches the shop assistant with a tell-tale nervous smirk. Then he stabs at the palest colour on the sample card and waits for his pot of emulsion.

He is Magnolia Man, the terror of the free from he had paint-store owners everywhere. For, all too often, his first, precipitate purchase is followed the next day by a visit from his wife. Can the paint, she asks, be exchanged for a bolder colour?

. Not any more, she can't. A home decor shop in Aberdeenshire has had enough. Allan Gordon has put up a sign in his Alford premises warning that men will only be served with paint if they can show accreditation from their spouse.

"We will not supply husbands with coloured paint without a signed note from their wives," it reads. Mr Gordon's theory is that securing a woman's approval beforehand will save time for everyone. The sign is just meant to be lighthearted," he says, "yet there is more than a wee bit of truth behind it. We find that women tend to rule the roost when it comes to picking paint colours. I suppose men still pick the cars, so women like to decide on the bome."

Part of the blame for women's enthusiasm for brasher colours has been stirred up by popular TV shows such as the BBC's Home Front and Changing Rooms.

Thousands now watch each week as Swot teams of stylists are sent in to transform dreary dens, armed with no more than a roll of muslin, an improvised guava-print stencil and a pot of radiant orange daub. "There is a lot more experimenting going on," says Mr Gordon.

Graham Wynne, one of Carol Smillie's decorating sidekicks on Changing Rooms, acknowledges this. There might be a whole rash of zebraskin patterns going on all over the country," he admits

According to Wynne, Magnolia Man is already an endangered species. "In the past, men were scared of having an opinion, but now they are beginning to take part. It is all part of the design revolution."

But even south of the border there is at least one Magnolia Man still thriving-style guru Wynne confesses that his own home is done out entirely in

Vanessa Thorpe

# Rupert strikes out Ted

ONCE, when America was young and the Dodgers were still in Brooklyn, haseball was about players and their heroics. It was about emerald green ballparks in the blazing summer sun, about loe Di Maggio's hitting streak and small boys begging for antographs. These days America's grown older, the Dodgers have long become the Los Angeles Dodgers, and even longy latters charge \$5 an autograph. Baseball's about money. It's about team owners. And right now, it's all about Rupert Murdoch.

Last year. Murdoch, American by passport for the purposes of his ownership of the Fox network, but Australian in every other way, reached a deal to buy the Dodgers from the O'Malley family. Now baseball, for the reasons listed above, may no longer exert its romantic grip it once did on the American psyche. Even so, the sale of the linear descendants of the team that the O'Malleys brutally uprooted to the West Coast in 1957, is something

For one thing, there's sentiment involved. Even now, the word Dodger is one of the most emotive in American sport. but four decades ago, the move of Brooklyn's beloved "Bums" - the eternal underdog, the team which broke the colour barrier in major league baseball - was a small watershed in America's postwar history, an early symbol of how money and power were starting to move west across the continent from the Hudson River. This time too, there's big money around. The \$311m (£186m) Murdoch is reputedly to pay is a record for any US sports franchise. And then, last and most important, there are the owners: Rupert Murdoch, who now is an owner, and Ted Turner, who already was one and was desperate to prevent the rival he loathes from joining that

Forget baseball's players. The action these days is not on those emerald fields of dreams, but in its boardrooms of megabucks. Gone are the Babe Ruths, the Di Maggios, and the Mickey Mantles of yesteryear. The sport's household names, and its largest egos, now belong to the likes of Turner, owner of CNN, Turner Broadcasting Systems and the Atlanta Braves, or the autocratic Peter Angelos of the Baltimore Orioles who sacks a manager a year - or the detested George Steinbrenner of the New York Yankees who no sooner wins the World Series than threatens to take the team from the Bronz to New Jersey unless

But these are mere caprices compared to Turner's feud with Murdoch, simulta- the 30 major league teams. This means Fox neously epic and puerile. The two of them already helps delivers the audiences and may bestride the global media business, yet advertising revenues which provides much

Murdoch wanted one of baseball's mightiest teams. His media and sporting - rival Ted Turner said: "I" squish him like a bug." He didn't, of course. By Rupert Cornwell





When top, bid for the Dodgers, Turner (seen with his wife Jane Fonda) came out fighting - to no avail. Right:

Turner's Braves and **Dodgers fight** it out

they trade insults that belong on the school olayground. "Til squish Murdoch like a bug," Turner brags, having previously likened his rival to Hitler. Ya-boo sucks, Rupert retorts, ordering Fox not to show even a glimpse of Ted or his wife Jane Fonda during its broadcast of the 1996 Series between the Yankees and the Braves.

Petty vanities, however, are only part of the story. Murdoch's advent is feared, too, for the reasons he is feared on this side of the Atlantic: that just as with News Corporation and the British newspaper industry, his true goal is not ownership of the Dodgers, but control of baseball. If he becomes an owner, critics warn, he gets access to the sport's innermost financial New York City obediently builds him a books. If this particular Fox is allowed into state-of-the-art \$1bn stadium in downtown
Manhattan. the chicken coop, mayhem may result. For through its local stations, Murdoch's network has the broadcasting rights for 22 of

of baseball's money. Combine that role with through the roof. This year will see a test new-found access to data which the ownand small wonder some people are already talking about "Rupert-ball".

case, when the contract of the Dodgers' suers traditionally share among themselves, perstar catcher Mike Piazza comes up for renewal. The talk is of a six-year deal worth an unprecedented \$100m. But what Mur-They paint a devilish scenario; of the doch wants, Murdoch is prepared to pay Dirtiest of Diggers calculatedly weaken- for. Unsurprisingly, it is less opulent fran-

Murdoch and Turner may bestride the global media business, yet their feud has seen them trade puerile

insults that belong on the school playground

of a hucrative broadcasting contract. Its coffers temporarily dry, a team might be prevented from buying, or forced to trade, a uneasy about letting Murdoch among star player. And Murdoch-the-owner could them. Probably the fears are overdone. Fox drive baseball's already bloated salaries is only one of four US terrestrial networks

ing rivals by, say, holding up the extension chises like the San Diego Padres, con-Dodgers just up the coast, which are most

and by some way the smallest of them. If Murdoch is a big fish on the other side of the Atlantic, America is a far larger pool than Britain. And while the Dodgers are huge, with TV followings not only in California, but also Japan and central America, they are not necessarily bigger than the Braves, not to mention the Yankees, probably the most valuable franchise in all American sport. Last night that reasoning prevailed. Despite every curvehall Ted Turner threw, the Dodger deal went through by 14 votes to one, when the 16 National League franchises took the decision at their meeting in Miami,

And talking of the Yankees, they are now said to be the object of a bid from another US media giant, Cablevision, for a rumoured \$550m, which would eclipse the record set by the O'Malleys' sale of the Dodgers. But if that means the end of Steinbrenner, most Yankee fans - and not only Yankee fans - will reckon the advent of Murdoch is a reasonable price to pay.

COMPUTER SYSTEMS

# They deny the risk, and play Russian roulette



### JOHN LYTTLE

WHATEVER happened to

Typed out, the sentence seems spectacularly dumb: a sick joke. After all, there's plenty of HIV about; more tion therapies a couple of years than enough for everyone, gay, straight or bisexual.

Globally, it continues to kill hundreds of thousands, the vast majority heterosexual. Rates of infection rampage. barely checked, in the Third World; India, Asia and buge stretches of Africa especially.

In America, Aids remains the third higgest cause of death in professional urban women in their late twenties to late thirties and would perhaps even nudge into second place if the cause of death were honestly declared on death certificates. Amongst young gay men.

levels of HIV infection have risen for a fourth consecutive year, perhaps because the young feel invulnerable - it can't happen to me - perhaps because of internalised selfloathing - it should happen to me - or maybe because of sheer impatience: I don't care if it happens to me/l want it to happen to me.

Wanting Aids to be over. one can act as if it is. If I don't practice safe sex then the Tail, Dark, Deadly Stranger will go away. And if that doesn't work, I'll reverse direction. I'll embrace the Tall, Dark, Deadly,

move his sovereign power. I'll log on the Internet, link up with the like-minded, or get my ass no one actually knows how to a club where trendy Bare- long they will work for those back" is the thing, condoms are forbidden and sex is unprotected.

Russian Roulette.

Ah, the intricate ingennity and bountiful if blasé homo- chemical mixtures themselves sexual imagination. Routinely may lose effectiveness. We sail and eternally forced to subvert the uncharted seas of the huhelp but "re-gay" Aids by trans- let's mix our metaphors - have forming even the threat of a lin- yet to come to full grips with the gering death into a fashion, a ad a fetish. But then the notion of a lin-

message that combination therapies aren't a cure - a happy hour still years off - but at best

gotten: triple-combinations don't work for everyone. And they currently work for. At present the virus appears contained and cannot duplicate or "Bareback": this year's mutate. But the virus and its multifarious strains are pregnant with shock-horrors and the circumstance, some of us can't man immune system and implications of Lazarus Syndrome.

If people with Aids are to gering death has receded since live longer and might (or might the advent of triple-combina- not, given the treatment's sideeffects) be able to return to emago. This despite the very clear ployment, what does this mean at a time when our caring, sharing government appears determined to cut disability a holding operation, and a la- and associated benefits? Peoporious, side-effect laden op- ple who live longer cost more eration at that: 20, 30, 40 or money, not less. It might be senmore tablets a day, to be tak- sible to prepare for long-term en with saturated fats, before surprises, except optimism and

Some of us can't help but 're-gay' Aids, turning even the threat of lingering death into a fashion, a fad, a fetish

therapies (I have witnessed too holy alliance emerging that many friends regain an almost miraculous semblance of wants Aids to be gone and rehealth) but to point out very real short-comings ie Aids still dictates every hour of every day. You could live longer but you still won't be able to leave the house, or, at least, not for long. There are pills to pop and the council to complete. sensationalise. Aids may not

going to bed, cloaked with car-exhaustion are a potent - and bohydrate, whatever. This is not potentially lethal - partnerto make light of combination ship, and there's this ad-hoc un-(justifiably and unjustifiably) fuses to acknowledge reality or

possible reversal. Cultural conspiracy theory-"Whatever happened to Aids?" - is in the air, beyond compassion fatigue and nearer boredom, not that Aids is no longer strength to conserve and all a rush, a Gothic romance or those begging forms to even a cheap opportunity to

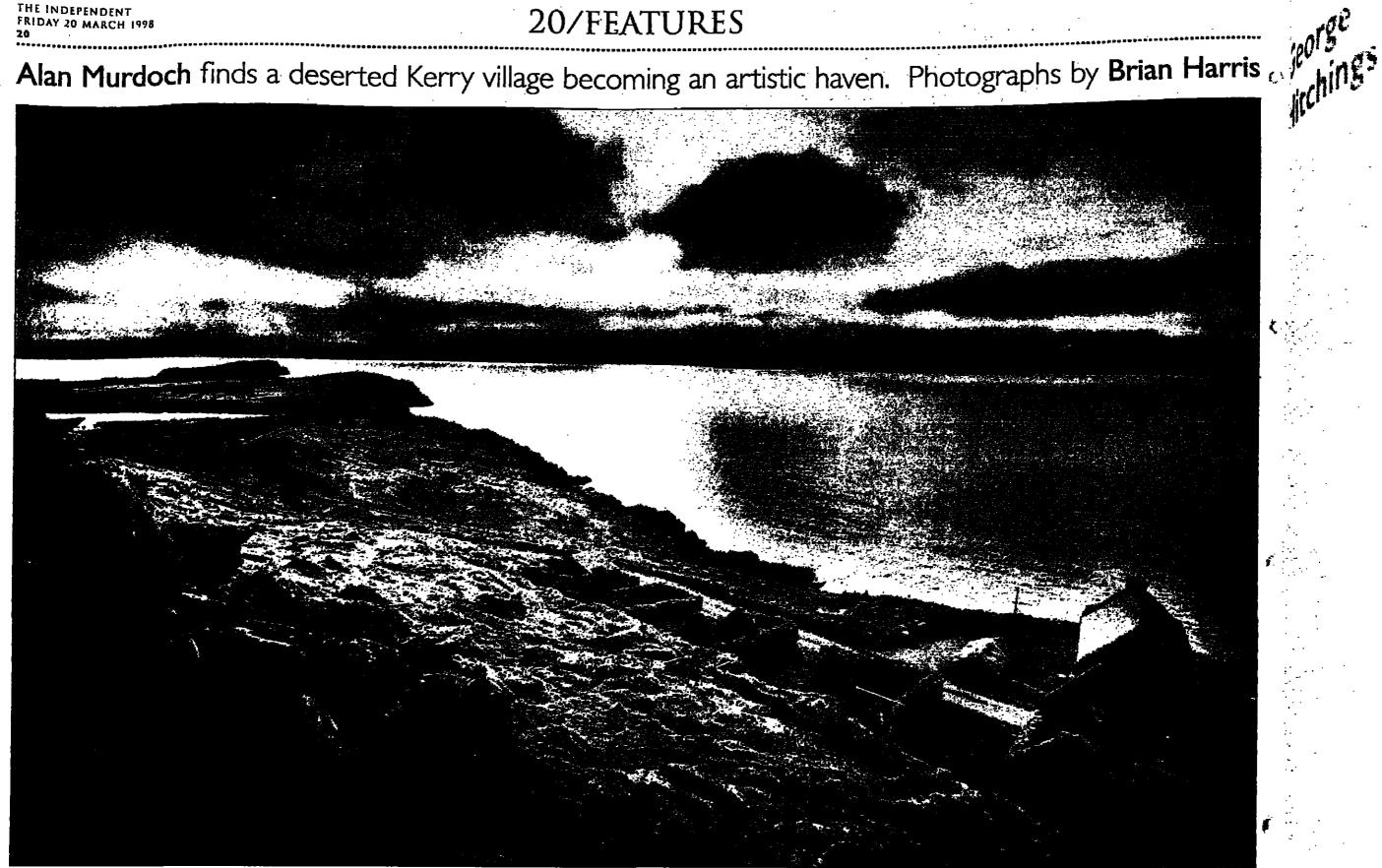
Facts easily and often for- mutate but it has evolved. It has not merely become (according to some) "survivable", it has also become ordinary. Hence the Daily Mail, tired of queers whinging though whinging itself about "state hand-outs to perverts". Hence the prissy queen who bumps into you on the dance floor and bullies you into replacing your top because your lesions are "spoiling everyone else's fun". Hence the short-sightedness of Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster Health Authority, who on one hand hype combination therapies and yet cut another £1.7m from London Lighthouse's already beleaguered budget. How then to continue providing a holistic service for those who will have to live (longer) with Aids as well as probably die from it? Slapdash irony: London Lighthouse forced to sell off its west London site and with it the residential unit, currently running at 85 per cent capacity, merely to maintain a basic level of day-care services, medical, psychiatric and physically supportive, and all because of ... a hunch. A hunch that combination therapies will always prove successful when there is, to date, no evidence to

support that conclusion. But, of course, we're not talking conclusions (fact). We're talking closure (emotions). Aids is not over or gone, just as herpes isn't gone or over. We simply stopped listening to those who had herpes, handed them the next new, improved wonder lotion and told them to sbut up. We'd been there and done that, OK? And we were lucky. So far, no time bombs waiting to explode. We can hope that this will be the case again but really, has anyone thought to tell the bareback riders, the boys in the backrooms and those whose T-cell counts have scant regard for the zeitgeist and pessimistically contique to plunge?

### me Difference Pay Nothing Until September 98 INTEREST FREE CREDIT Pentium® II the middleman and offer you the latest state of the art 266MHz Pentham' II processor based system at just £999 +VAL That's the Time Difference. For even better value go for the best buy 266M-2 model which offers even higher specifications including a FREE PC-TV system. 266M-2x 266-2 PowerPro PC™ PowerPro PC™ 266M-2 18M 6x66MX PR266 processor with MAXX technology \* 265ALHz lotal Paution\* 8 o \* 84Mb RAM 84 64Mb RAM \* 6.463 hard disk • 15" SVSA colour screen (17"optional Carland S&r voice modern \* 4NB KET AGP x2 3D graphics £149 +VAI = £175.08 extra) 55k voce modem 32x MAX CD-ROM 4Mb SIS Advanced graphics using 512k Pioelise butst cache 14° SVGA colour screen (15° opt (sibes 80.182 = TAV+ 983 30 wavetable sound SF525 stereo speaker system 32x MAX CD-ROM \* Over £800 software\* bundle IBM GOLD speech recomi 90 video VHS video trainer Videoghoue receive Year 2000 compliant FREE PC-TV System with ATX lower with all standard feat Teleted & video capture 14 Day money back quarantee Rest of specification as 266-2. (excluding carriege costs) £1173 🖁 333-2 PowerPro PC" As 366447 a showe but with 3333412 lether Penthers it processor and alto AT AGP at 30 gapting, includes Pentle PC-TV system Propositional 57 399 17 790 266M-2 PowerPro PC ZOOM: Z POWER PTO PC : Bit Die ymodel only 1916 + VAT = Dit Die war. As 266-2 shown but with: Fraster EM deBolk PRESS processor with MacC" worknoopy - Vision Priors receive - EM GOLD apsech progration - France but speed motive/bound with TS Advances graphics using 46th against EDO RAM - PRES: PC-TV system with Telebour and within Committee. **FREE PC-TV Systems** All students (secrept 286-2) inclusio a trop extrement PC-TV systems with studiey to run; or restination windows, download 1299 £1526 # and search Teletent and capture motion video. RRP £129. rideo captura. Produci cudes NF 365 17 321 42 UK Showrooms **PAY NOTHING UNTIL SEPT 1998** PowerPro™ S Models These include 5 top games (RSP C145), joystick, besident CD mustinedes titles for ust (SS+VAT = C116.53 inc. VAT **NO Deposit** NO Payments. **NO Interest** OWERHOUSE Freephone Time Now!

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Sanctuary: The uninhabited village of Ballinskelligs with one of the restored houses (right) which have become homes to hundreds of international artists since 1991

# On the shores of inspiration

AGAINST the Ring of Kerry's epic landscape of slate-grey cliffs and vast sweeping valleys, scattered cottages crouch low against blasting gales on steep slopes. This is not conventional beauty, but something more invigorating, wilder, resonant of Atlantic power. Small wonder then that this stark scenery should so forcefully grip the imaginations of artists.

Since its foundation stone was laid in 1991 by then-Taoiseach Charles Haughey over 180 have now visited, living and working in the embryonic community of Cill Rialaig on the western tip of the Ring, close to the haunting triangular Skelligs,

Cill Rialaig had been in steady decline since the potato famine 150 years ago. Now there are plans for half of the settlement's original 14 ruined cottages to be renovated, with the two already completed available free to visiting artists. Painters, enraptured by the unique morning light, work beneath a glass roof. Yards from the cliff edge, the dwellings face directly out into the At-

Anne Kampmann, currently visiting from Norway, paints mundy abstract works. Walking the nearby headlands, she feels "the pressure of history here. I think the spirit is here in a very heavy way."

The project was the brainchild of Dublin publisher Noelle Campbell-Sharp, a regular visitor down the years. A busy socialite and sometime rock band manager, she traces the origins of the project to an unlikely celebrity.

"If it hadn't been for Robert Maxwell nothing would have happened," she confesses. Campbell-Sharp, an energetic super-saleswoman became known as the only person ever to make money out of the bouncing Czecb, after selling him her stable of up-market womens' glossy magazines, among them Irish Tatler and Social And Personal. Dublin wits promptly renamed her "Razor-Sharp Noelle".

Maxwell went to his grave before her payment was completed. She retreated to Kerry "to lick my wounds". It was then she conceived her rejuvenation plan.

She admits many were initially wary of "this mad woman from Dublin". She, after all, used to promote her coffee-



Approval: Vi Lawlor, 75, a wealthy widow and socialite, celebrates with an Irish coffee at the gallery opening in Ballinskelligs



Celebration: The evening flows into the small hours and there is no sign of an end to the set dancing in the local bar



Exertion: American artist Joan Boryto runs at 7am using rocks for weights through the abandoned village. Across the bay a large international art gallery is planned for Waterville, which, it is hoped, will rival the Tate at St Ives



The finished work: Paintings of New England (top) and Ballinskelligs (bottom) by Joan Boryto

The pressure of history is here. And the spirit is here'



The fruits: Writer Terry Keane at the new gallery with Noelle Campbell-Sharp in the background

marr Rainbow



tage Bentley was a familiar sight double-parked outside the Shelbourne Hotel, prime watering hole of the tiara set. She did manage to squeeze Irish high-society for donations through golf-classics and auctions. Rebuilding the first two cottages cost £50,000 each. The artists come from as far

table reading for the hunting #

ses, while her elegant vin-

afield as Argentina, Russia, and Italy. A tradition has arisen at Cill Rialaig of leaving behind a work of art produced there, which is sold to raise funds. Italy's 1996 painter of the year, Aurelio Caminati, left an entire summer's output. The outward influence is visible in Irish-related exhibitions now running in Milan, Genoa, Glasgow and Cornwall.

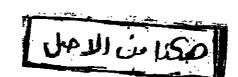
The last, most ambitious venture is a large international art gallery planned for Waterville, five miles across Ballinskelligs Bay, parallelling the Tate at St Ives.

Last Saturday, a mile from the village in the project's impressive new gallery-restaurant with adjacent workshops, Campbell-Sharp brought her contrasting metropolitan and country circles together. To open a group show, amid intense local interest, she lured down a real celebrity in the form of Terry Keane, Dublin's principal gossip writer and "close friend" of Charles Haughey ("Sweetie" in her weekly newspaper column). Last week a Dublin magazine named her "the sexiest woman in Ireland".

The retinue also included the scarlet-clad Vi Lawlor, 75 yearold good-time girl and wealthy widow with a liking for vintage "shampoo", dancing on tables, who resorts to a Rolls-Royce for race meetings when the helicopter is booked up.

With Campbell-Sharp in Dublin (running a gallery and planning a cigar-and-wine club) a board involving Kerry business and professional figures run the art project. Local people have warmed to it Tom Horgan, the owner of a small caravan park, says, "We want quality tourism, not to destroy the place", while GP Derry Gibson says "Psychologically, it is important to have such wonderful. art here, to show there is something happening.

Inquiries to : The Cill Rialaig Project, Ballinskelligs, County Kerry, Ireland. Fax: 00353 66 79324.



# George Hitchings

GEORGE HITCHINGS was mulative; the solution of one an outstanding discoverer of problem creates the tools and medicines which have given understanding that facilitate benefit to sufferers all over the the solution of the next probworld. He devised Daraprim for lem." The first important sucmalaria and Zyloric for gont, cess was the anti-malarial drug both exceptional remedies Daraprim or pyrimethamine, which have stood the test of which was tested in the Welltime; but the main application come Institute of Tropical Medof his work was in cancer icine in London and in the chemotherapy.

Hitchings was born in Houiam, Washington, in 1905. His family was prominent in shipbuilding, but he decided early anti-cancer drugs. The comto devote his life to a search for pound 6-mercaptopurine was new medicines. He studied Biochemistry for bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Washington, and continued to work for his PhD from In 1942 he joined the Amer-

ican laboratories of the firm of Burroughs Wellcome (now part of Glazo Wellcome) in Tuckahoe, New York, where he developed the programme of his life work. Scientists in those cess, the drug Zyloric, or allaboratories had an exception- lopurinol, remarkably free from ai and enviable freedom to decide for themselves what to doubted benefit in preventing work on and how to work on it. the very painful attacks of the Hitchings, one of the few scientists of the time to recognise the importance of deoxyribonucleic acid or DNA in life processes, chose to study purines and pyrimidines, the building blocks of DNA.

Gertrude Elion exploited the then recently established principle of competitive antagonism and made drugs which would arrest the multiplication of specific cells, either of

The enormous progress in the next quarter of a century provided the medicines which transplantation possible. enabled Burroughs Wellcome to become a major pharmaceutical company. In Hitchings's 1967 Burroughs Wellcome ap-

This very valuable discovery was, however, a diversion from the primary interest of finding made and found to cause remissions in children with certain types of leukaemia. Very few anti-cancer drugs were known at the time, and the success, although limited, was a great encouragement to Hitchings's and Elion's line of work.

Studies of the metabolic fate of purines suggested an effective treatment for gout. The result was an outstanding sucunwanted effects, and of un-While these discoveries were

being made and the more basic research which supported them was continuing, the science of immunology was growing fast. The idea that immune He and his research partner responses depended on division of particular cells suggested that anti-cancer drugs might act also as immunosuppressants. Mercaptopurine was found to stop immune responses in rabbits, and further compounds an invading parasite or of a were developed, resulting in the immunosuppressant azathioprine, sometimes described as the drug which made organ

By this time Hitchings had a world-wide reputation. In own words, "The results are cu-pointed him as Vice-President James Black.



Hitchings: Nobel prizewinner for medicine in 1988 and a quiet but formidable man of integrity and great kindness

of Research. He was then involved in planning new research laboratories for the company's move to Research Triangle Park in North Carolina. Here he led a large and flourishing department in which outstanding chemotherapeutic discoveries continued to be made, including drugs for the treatment of herpes and Aids.

In 1976 he was elected as a

Foreign Member of the Royal Society of London; in 1977 he was inducted into the US National Academy of Science; in .1978 he received the Annual Award of the American Cancer Society. In 1988 he and Gertrude Elion shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine with the British pharmacologist Sir

Hitchings continued to be most knowledgeable gardener. based in the Wellcome labora-His silences could be embartories, and was increasingly inrassing, and the concentration volved in philanthropy. He of his thought was sometimes served as President of the Buroverpowering, but what came roughs Wellcome Fund, a from it was profoundly worth private foundation which supported pharmaceutical re-Miles Weatherall search, from 1971 to 1989. He

George Herbert Hitchings, chemist: founded the Triangle Community Foundation in 1983 and born Hoquiam, Washington 18 served as its President until April 1905; Teaching Fellow, Washington University 1926-28; roughs Wellcome as Scientist Teaching Fellow, Harvard Universi-Emeritus in 1994, shortly before ty 1928-34, Instructor and Tutor 1932-36, Research Fellow 1934-36, George Hitchings was a qui-Associate 1936-39; Senior Instrucet but formidable man of great tor, Western Reserve University integrity and great kindness. He 1939-42; Biochemist, Burroughs had a splendid sense of fun Wellcome Co 1942-46, Chief Biowhich came out delightfully in chemist 1946-55, Associate Rethe right circumstances. With an search Director 1955-63, Research innate love of plants, he was a Director (Chemotheropy Division)

of Research 1967-75, Director 1968-77, Scientist Emeritus and Consultant 1975-98; Professor of Pharmacology, Brown University 1968-80, Staff, Department of Medicine, Roger Williams General Hospital 1970-80; Adjunct Professor of Pharmacology and Adjunct Professor of Experimental Medicine, Duke University 1970-85; President, Burroughs Wellcome Fund 1971-90, Director 1971-94; Adjunct Professor of Pharmacology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 1972-85; Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (jointly with Gertrude Elion and Sir James Black) 1988; married 1933 Beverly Reimer (died 1985; one son, one daughter), 1989 Joyce Shaver; died Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27

## Barbara Haq

THE MOVEMENT for Colonial Freedom (MCF) - founded by the Labour parliamentarian known as Liberation - was at 1950s and 1960s.

the establishment of organisations such as Anti-Apartheid, War on Want, and the British Council for Peace in Victnam, and secretarial skills were soon its key organiser for most of this period, working for the movesigned in 1973, after more than

The daughter of Edward aminer of Estate Duty, she might have chosen other paths, but her interest in music brought her into contact with left-wing musicions. As a result, she joined the Communist Parand worked for its London District Office with anti-colonial rebels and overseas students.

One of these, Islam at Haq. from an Indian Muslim family, she married. After the birth of two daughters and a son, they left for Pakistan in 1954. Barbara Haq, however, suffered from vito lose three years of schooling. and was forced to return to Britain with the children in 1956 for medical attention. Her husband remained in Pakistan.



When Pakistan fell under military rule in 1958, Barbara Han mobilised opposition in and peace campaigner Fenner Britain and was in due course Brockway in 1954, and today asked by political exiles to represent the interests of the Nathe heart of organised support tional Awami Party of Pakistan for colonial revolution in the in Britain. Disillusioned with the Communist Party, she then Its pioneering work led to joined the Labour Party and took a job in the Movement for Colonial Freedom's office.

Her knowledge, dedication

among others. Barbara Haq was recognised and, after being seconded for a period to act as Secretary to the newly formed ment from 1958 until she re- British Council for Peace in Vietnam, she succeeded John a decade as General Secretary. Eher as Secretary of MCF in 1962. She became a confident of Lapwood Green, the Chief Ex- Feaner Brockway, Bob Edwards and other parliamentarians and mobilised rank-and-file support for the causes they embraced. Opposing war in Vietnam and Nigeria, denouncing massacres in Indonesia, fighting apartheid ty during the Second World War in southern Africa, supporting the cause of freedom in colonial countries, rallying racism's opponents in Britain and action against world hunger were some of the issues on the agenda.

Haq's life was dominated by the work of convening conferences, organising demonstrations, producing the MCF cerative colitis, which had led her journal Colonial Freedom News, providing briefings, typing stencils at an incredible speed, turning the duplicator handle. stuffing envelopes and raising funds. Occasionally she undertook overseas missions herself. like one around 1970 to Sudan to try to achieve understanding between north and south. Her pay was a pittance and she never sought personal publicity or self-advancement. The cause was all that mattered.

**Scanley Newens** 

Barbara McKay Green, campaigner: born Landon 8 March 1918; Secretary, Movement for Colonial Freedom 1962-73; married 1942 Islam al Haq (died 1993; one son, one daughter, and one daughter deceased); died London 2 March 1998.

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### **Bernarr Rainbow**

BERNARR RAINBOW was recognised in Britain and abroad as the leading historian in the field of musical education

A successful schoolteacher and director of music, he was also a man of insatiable curiosity who amassed a vast collection of historical books and materials. In middle age he became a punctilious scholar, completing two research degrees, but was always auxious to make his discoveries widely available for the benefit of colleagues and their

Rainbow was born in London in 1914, and went to Rutlish School, Merton; his father was Curator of Pictures at Hampton Court Palace. Whilst still at school he was appointed to his first post as organist and choirmaster at St James's, Merton, and at Trinity College of Music, from 1933 to 1939, he was a pupil of the academic harmony pedagogue Dr William Lovelock. As with many of his generation, Rainbow's studies were interrupted by the Second World War. He was not able to



Rainbow: prescient

proceed with his London degree. Instead he served with the Army in North Africa and Italy. until he was invalided out in

Soon after returning, Rainbow was appointed Organist and Choirmaster of High Wycombe Parish Church and Senior Music Master at the Royal Grammar School. But he really got into his stride as a historiographer of music education after he was appointed Director of Music at the Coll-

University. At the time, before the days

training college was a lively intellectual environment with principals such as Michael Further literary connections inchided the poets Thomas Blackburn and John Heath-Stubbs, who both taught there. On the musical side, Rain-

bow had an instinct for new de-. velopments, although he felt more at home in earlier centuries and was suspicious of at a time when Peter Maxwell Davies was amazing everyone with what his pupils at Circucester Grammar School could do, Rainbow appointed me, fresh from studying and working in New York, and soon after George Self and Brian Dennis. When I went for interview I improvised on the chapel organ: Rainbow later told me it was ege of St Mark and St John then that he was determined to

in Chelsea in 1952, which appoint me since he could hardbecame connected to the Insti- - ly wait to see the expression on the of Education at London the Principal's face during the chapel services.

1985. He retired from Bur-

his 90th birthday.

Kambow s work at of wark of university expansion, this and St John confirmed the avmusical life of church and Church of England teacher erage music teacher's need for guidance. So he published his first book, Music in the Classroom, in 1956, and then edited Roberts and later A.A. Evans. a Handbook for Music Teachers in 1964, which went through two more editions. A profound influence on

Rainbow, which moved him into his own unique areas of historical musicology, was a discovery he made in 1953 when rummaging in the basement at the college. He found early mere novelty. In the early 1960s, service sheets which showed that, from its foundation in 1840, the chapel of St Mark's College, Chelsea (as it then was), played a vital role in the choral revival within the Anglican Church. A repertoire of Tallis, Byrd, Gibbons, Palestrina and Victoria was not the usual cathedral fodder at that time.

Rainbow's predecessors Helmore, the college's first

who pioneered methods of Kodály himself admitted. teaching singing to large classes.

school in 19th-century England, it became increasingly clear that the German sobriquet "The Land Without Music" was demonstrably unjustified. So he provocatively threw this down as the title of his first scholarly book exploring musical education in England from 1800 to 1860 in terms of its continental antecedents. Three vears later, in 1970, Rainbow's The Choral Revival in the Anglican Church, 1839-1892 appeared where he developed further his particular flair for relating musical practice to church

Rainbow wrote a short critical biography of John Curwen (1816-1880), the inventor of the tonic sol-fa method of teaching sight-singing and founded the Curwen Institute in 1978 to promote Curwen's included the Rev Thomas principles. These anticipated the methods much later put

politics in a fascinating way.

precentor, and John Hullah, into practice in Hungary, as

February 1998.

Rainbow's infectious enthusiasm for all he studied. carried him on into generous ly making his sources available too. In retirement during the 1980s he edited some 25 classic texts in music education from originals in various languages as Classic Texts in Music Education. But Rainbow's magnum opus, which brings together all his involvements and strides across many centuries, is Music in Educational Thought and Practice (1989).

This near 400-page treatise starts with Ancient Greece and Rome and ends in the mid-1980s. After tracing centuries of methods of teaching notation. often developed against odds. Rainbow's message is clear:

In pursuit of spontaneity a genera-tion of schoolchildren had already grown up without skills previously regarded as essential in elementary education. Theories that children should not be pestered to learn to spell, write grammatically, or learn multiplication tables later found a musical counterpart in arguments against teaching the use of notation.

Rainbow's warnings made of the all-male choir in catheabundant sense but are only now being beeded.

St Mark and St John moved to Phynouth, Rainbow transferred to Gypsy Hill College of Education and became Head of Music when it was incorporated into Kingston Polytechnic (now university). Here he launched the new CNAA degree of BA (MusEd). As a musicologist he contributed to many of the leading dictionaries and, following his MPhil and PhD from Leicester University, was particularly pleased with the award of their first DLitt in 1992. In 1994, he was elected a Fellow and an Honorary Fellow of

In 1996 Rainbow issued another prescient warning against neglecting one of our greatest national musical assets. He became President of the Campaign for the Defence of the Traditional Cathedral Choir, an organisation formed to champion the ancient tradition

following year.

Trinity College of Music in the

drals and similar choral foundations by resisting the In 1972, when the College of introduction of women and 1996 he generously established the annual Bernarr Rainbow Award for School Music Teachers which is administered by the Music Education Department at Trinity College of Music. There is nothing like this award. which is being supported by the Bernarr Rainbow Trust, a registered charity, and is endowed to enable it to continue into the foreseeable future - a worthy memorial to its founder.

Bernart Rainbow made a remarkable recovery from a of the Royal Society of Arts stroke in 1991; his much-loved and supportive wife, Olive, died in 1996; and he fought his own debilitating illnesses with exemplary courage and characteristic good-humour.

Peter Dickinson

Bernarr Joseph George Rainbow, music educationist: born London 2 October 1914; married 1943 Olive Still (died 1996); died Esher, Surrey 17

# Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Death, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London EM 5DL, colephoned to 0171-293 2010; 2014-bour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fased to 0171-323 2016, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faced) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number.

The OBITUARIES e-mail address in

Synagogue services Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 5.59pm

United Synagoguett 0181-343 8989.
Federation of Synagoguest 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagoguest 0171-580 1663. Reform Synagogues of Great Britains 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregations 0171-289 2573. New London Synagogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1026.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Queen whits Oasia Lakeland Forest Village,
Whinfell, Curchrite: as Patron, Youth Hossels Association, waits Dereastmater Youth Hossel,
Bortowdale, Cumbria; visits Kesnich Schoot and
opens the new sports hall, Kesnich, Schoot and
visits USF Films, Wighten, Cumbria. The Princes
of Wales, on behalf of the Owen, holds an ondestitute of Bucklinghum Paines. The Princess
stoyal, Potron, the Base Salik Agency, attends
the presentation of the Base Salik Agency
Outsity Mark to Gloucester College of Aris and
Rechnology. ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard

Birthdays

Sir William Asscher, consultant physician. St George's Hospital, London, 67; The Very Rev William Baddeley, former Rector, St James's, Piccadilly, 84; Dr Wendy Baron, former Director, Government Art Collection, 61; Mr Anthony Blond, publisher, 70; Mr Tamothy Brooks, Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire, 60; Sir Arnold Burgen, former Mas-69; Sir Arnold Burgen, former Mas-69; Sir Armolo Burgett, torner bar-ter, Darwin College, Cambridge, 76; Sir Smart Burgess, former Chairman, Anglia and Oxford Regional Health Authority, 69; The Right Rev Mario Conti, Roman Catholic Bishop of Ab-erdeen, 64; Ms Yvette Cooper MP, 29: Dr Ian J. Graham-Bryce, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Dundee University, 61; Mr William Hurt, actor, 48; Mr John Joubert, composer, 71; Mr Madan Lal, cricketer, 47; Miss Frances Lincoln, publisher, 53; Dame Vera Lynn, singer, 81; Mr Tony McWalter MP, 53; M Pierre Messmer, former French prime minister, 82; Sir David Montgomery, former chairman, the Forestry Commission, 67; Mr Brian Mulroney, former prime minister of Canada, 59; Mr Jeremy Nichols, Headmaster, Stowe School, 55; Dr John Rae, former Headmaster, Westminster School, 67; Lord Saville of Newdigste, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 62; Mr Jonathan Sayeed MP, 50; Mr Greg Searle, row-

and former chairman, Hillsdown Holdings, 61; Mr Tim Yeo MP, 53. Anniversaries

ALE TO SERVICE

Births: Ovid, poet, 43 BC; William Barnes, Dorset dialect poet, 1801; Henrik lissen, playwright, 1828; Max Brand (Frederick Schiller Faust) povelist and screenwriter, 1892; Sir Michael Scudamore Redgrave, actor, 1908. Deaths: Henry IV, King of

et, 26; Sir Harry Solomon, director

England, 1413; Sir Isaac Newton, se-entist, 1727; George Nathaniel Curcount, 1727; Octorge Nationale: Cur-zon, first Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, Viceroy of India, 1925; Lord Alfred Bruce Douglas, editor and poet, 1945; Brendan Behan, writer, 1964. On this day: the Dutch East India Company was founded 1602; the foundation stone of Dartmoor Prison, Devon, was laid, 1806; the Burlington Arcade, London, was opened, 1819; Marble Arch, formerly at Buckingham Paisce, was unveiled at its present site in London, 1851; Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe was first published in book form, 1852; Bismarck resigned as Germany's first chancellor, 1890; the Nazis opened their first concentration camp at Dachan, near Mu nich, 1933; the British Council was established, 1935. Today is the Feast Day of St Cuthbert, St Herbert, St Martin of Braga, St Photina and her Companions, St Wulfram and the Martyrs of Mar Saba.

Lectures.

Victoria and Albert Museum Clare Ford Willie, "Renaissance Decorative Painting", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Simon Morley. "The Promise of Happiness: the paintings of Pierre Bonnard", 1pm. Wallace Collection: Stephen Duffy "Van Gogh and Sir Richard Wallace's Pictures", lpm.

Dinners : HM Governme

Lord Gilbert, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, was the host at a dinner held yesterday evening at Lancaster House, London SW1, in honour of Mr Massimo Brutti Deputy Minister for Defence of the Italian Republic.

### LAW REPORT: 20 MARCH 1998

## Awareness of article's true nature is enough

Regina v Dunne; Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Hutchison, Mr Justice Mance and Judge Goddard QC)

AN ACCUSED would be guilty of importing an obscene article if he was aware of its true nature and the jury concluded that it was such as would tend to deprave and corrupt within the meaning of section 1(1) of the Obscene Publications Act 1959.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal of William Gerard Dunne against his conviction at Harrow Crown Court on 17 September 1997, following a change of plea to guilty, of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of a prohibition on the importation of goods imposed by section 42 of the Customs Consolidation Act 1876, contrary to section 170(2) of the Customs and Excise

Management Act 1979.

sterdam, with videotapes, paper video covers and three brochures in his possession. He had told a customs officer that he had brought some videos back from Amsterdam and, in response to the question: "What sort of videos?" he had replied: "Blue movies." The customs officer had formed the view that the videos and the covers were obscene, and

the appellant was arrested,

interviewed and charged.

Following a ruling on a point of law at his trial, the appellant had changed his plea to guilty. He appealed against conviction on the ground that the judge's ruling was incorrect. Charles Salter (Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for the appellant; Craig Ferguson (Solicitor, Customs and Excise) for the Crown.

Lord Justice Hutchison said that the contention advanced on behalf of the appellant was a novel one and if correct The appellant had arrived meant that the offence with

at Heathrow Airport from Am- which he had been charged was knew the article was obscene belief that an article had a tenone which it was impossible to commit.

The argument was as follows: it was an essential ingredient of the offence that the appellant had known at the time of importation that the articles were obscene, and the question whether an article such would be guilty of knowwas obscene within the meaning of section 42 of the 1876 Act depended on whether it fell within the definition of obscenity, in section 1(1) of the Obscene Publications Act 1959, which provided that:

an article shall be deemed to be obscene if its effect . . . is, if taken as a whole, such as to tend to deprave and corrupt persons who are likely, having regard to all the relevant circumstances, to read see or hear the matter contained or embodied

Accordingly, until a jury had determined whether an article was within that definition. no one could know whether or not it was obscene: the person that, whereas belief that a bag importing it, when stopped in customs and asked whether he heroin was a belief as to fact,

could do no more than express his opinion in terms of the degree of probability of its being found to be obscene.

Counsel for the appellant had conceded that a man who fraudulently imported a prohibited drug believing it to be ingly importing that drug even though his belief might be based only on what the person who had given it to him had told him, and he had not himself analysed the substance. He said, however, that belief was apt only to matters of fact, not matters of opinion.

While the philosopher might say that it was impossible to know anything, the adverb "knowingly" in the 1979 Act (and in many other statutes creating criminal offences) was to be understood as emphasising the requirement of mens containing heroin did contain

dency to deprave and corrupt those likely to see it was a matter of opinion.

Whether an article had such a tendency was as much a question of fact as was the question whether the powder in the bag was heroin, and cither might have to be determined by the jury in the event of dispute. A defendant who believed that the heroin he was carrying was glucose was entitled to be acquitted, just as was the defendant who believed that the obscene videos he was carrying were recordings of sporting events. A defendant who was aware of the true nature of the article he was importing would, however, be guilty if the jury concluded that that article had the tendencies specified in section 1(1) of the 1959 Act. The offence was not incapable of commission, rev. It was fallacious to contend and the appellant had no grounds for maintaining that his conviction was unsafe. Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

# INDEPENDENT

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# Why our prisons are not working

"PRISON WORKS" must rank as one of the most fatuous slogans ever devised and, in terms of its persuasive power, one of the least effective. Michael Howard, the villain of this particular piece, adopted the air of an impatient head teacher explaining the laws of logic to a class of dim pupils when he pointed out that if criminals were in prison, they could not be committing crimes against people outside.

The slogan's crassness was all the more apparent because it was invented for the purpose of countering one of the cleverest and most persuasive slogans recently deployed in politics. Labour's claim to be "tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime".

Now, however, the superior slogan is being tested against the harsh world of reality. The prison population, which was around 45,000 throughout the Conservative years, with a slight bump upwards in the late Eighties, started to rise when Mr Howard became Home Secretary in 1993. It turned into a trend which cannot be easily or quickly reversed. Especially when we consider both how committed the Labour government is to the first part of its slogan, and the inevitably long timetable implied by the second

By the time of the election last year the prison population in Britain had shot past 60,000. Now there are 65,000 people in prison, with the figure expected to rise to between 83,000 and 93,000 in seven years' time.

This is the background against which to read yesterday's confirmation by the Board of Visitors at Wormwood Scrubs that brutality by prison staff against inmates is something which "goes on". Overcrowding is a serious problem which, combined with low morale among large parts of the Prison Service, is bound to create breakdowns of discipline of all kinds.

Jack Straw, who has inherited Mr Howard's trembling pressure-cooker, urgently needs to ask why Britain locks up a greater proportion of its population than any other European country except Portugal, and why that proportion is rising so fast. As Mr Howard might explain in pedantic tones to his dim class, recorded crime is no longer rising, so it is because criminals who appear in court are more likely to be locked up and to be locked up for longer than before. Partly, this is the result of more lock-'em-up legislation, and partly because the courts have responded to the climate of lock-'em-up rhetoric in which they work.

To Mr Straw's credit, he resisted the knee-jerk populism of the Tory "three strikes and you're out" proposals for burglary, imposing compulsory jail terms on third-time offenders. And he has also changed his line on electronic tagging. Home Office plans for 30,000 offenders a year to serve community sentences under curfews enforced by tags should be treated with scepticism - not least because the assumption behind tagging is that criminals behave rationally - but tagging could be a way of unwinding some of the hard-line rhetoric without appearing soft on crime.

However, many thousands too many people are still destined to end up behind bars before anything resembling action on the "causes of crime" will show through. Even if all the pledges of ending social exclusion, tackling truancy, ending the pressure on boys to behave badly, take us eventually to the promised land, in the meantime far too many will be brutalised, physically and emotionally, by a prison system which plainly is not working.

There are two groups of prisoners which should be Mr Straw's priori-

ties. The first is the 8,000 remand prisoners, an eighth of the total, all of them innocent until proved guilty, many of them receiving a crash course in drug use or the habits of crime. Labour has promised to speed up the average 13-week delays for young offenders, but older offenders matter too, and at the very least speeding up youth cases should not be at the expense of the rest of the system.

Then there are the 8,000 black people, eight times over-represented in the prison population in relation to their numbers in the country as a whole. Five of the eight prisoners alleging brutality in the Scrubs are black. There is evidence that black criminals are more likely to receive custodial sentences than white ones, although most of the over-representation occurs before the courtroom is reached. Mr Straw said in a pre-election interview with this newspaper that one of the three legacies for which he wanted to be remembered was successfully tackling racism. The other two were incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights and "catching and dealing effectively with more criminals. Well, we have heard plenty about those two. Let us hear more about being tough on racial inequality and tough on its causes.

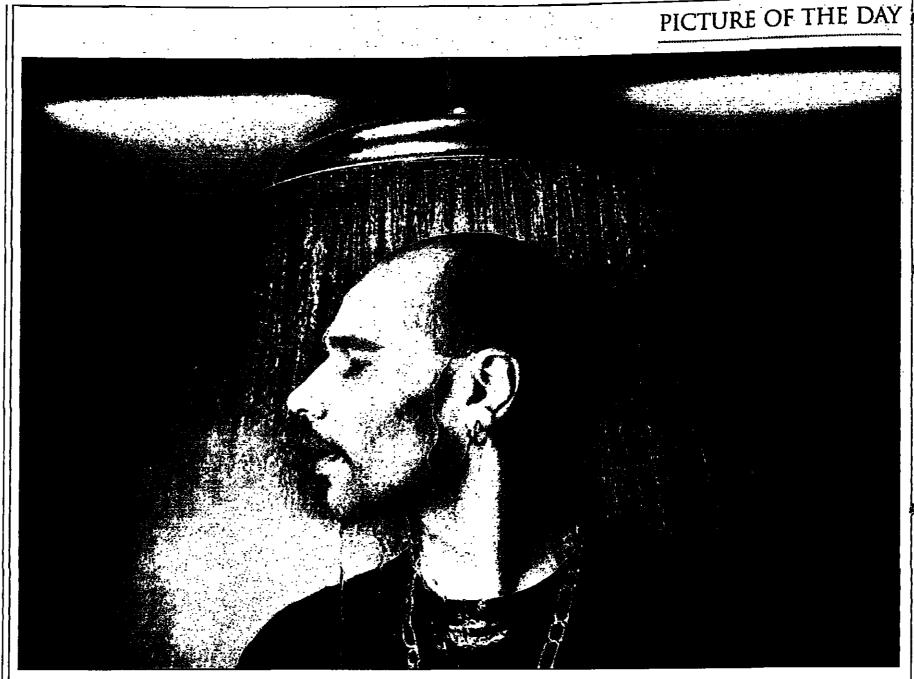
## Blair taken for a spin on the moral barbecue

TONY BLAIR'S failure to register the hospitality extended to him by Formula One bosses was a fairly trivial offence, to be sure, but it raises an im-

Sir Gordon Downey, the public servant paid to stand guard over MPs' morals, concludes that the Blair family day out among the Marlboro hoardings had a "value" of more than £215, and so should have been declared. We are not wholly convinced, because the then leader of the Opposition did not come to see the motor racing, which is why other people pay money for the tickets.

What Sir Gordon did not say, because he appears not to have access to a newspaper cuttings library, is that Mr Blair's children were driven around the Silverstone track by Damon Hill. Now, that is a perk worth a bob or two, which the Prime Minister strangely omitted to mention in his defence.

Which brings us to the serious point. Be he ever so high and ever so convinced of his own moral purity, it is healthy that the Prime Minister be tested on the moral spit on which he so roasted the Tories when he was



Chilling out: Goldie, a hip-hop performer, in Chalk Farm, London

Photograph: James Rexroad

### Suing for distress

PROFESSOR Andrew Burrows, author of the recent Law Commission report on liability for psychiatric illness is quoted as saying: "The law is not saying you can recover damages just because you were upset be-cause of grief or auxiety. There is a line and we are saying there should continue to be a line between a recognised psychiatric illness and mental distress." ("Reforms may allow 'Hillsborough' awards", 10 March.)

This is an example of how out of touch an academic lawyer can be with what actually takes place in personal injury litigation.

It is possible for a subject to be seen by a neurologist, cardiologist, endocrinologist or chest physician and leave the consulting room having been told there is nothing wrong with him or her. It is virtually impossible for someone to be interviewed by a psychiatrist and leave the consulting room without having some psychiatric

label attached to them. Psychiatrists are adept at interpreting all human behaviour and emotional reactions in terms of psychopathology. Understandable reactions of unhappiness and concern are "diagnosed" as depression and anxiety. A problem in dealing with a particular situation is regarded as an "adjustment disorder".

As far as litigation is concerned, time and time again what a social worker or a priest or any member of the public would regard as understandable mental distress is "diagnosed" by a psychiatrist instructed by a plaintiff's solicitor as some form of psychological illness which is deserving of damages. The expert instructed by a plaintiff's solicitor is only too well aware that if he writes a report which is "helpful" with regard to a particular case, he is likely to go on being instructed in the future. It is entirely understandable that the Bar should regard experts as "hired guns".

If the proposals of the Law Commission are accepted, there will be an absolute flood of reports prepared by psychiatrists claiming that friends and relatives of the victims of accidents are suffering from some form of psychological illness.

Whatever benefits may accrue to

### **LETTERS**

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

the legal profession, it will be the public who will foot the bill, for insurers will now have to face claims not only from the plaintiff but from members of the plaintiff's family. Dr LEOPOLD HENRY FIELD London WI

### Masons on the bench

WAS stunned by the report (18 March) that Lord Bingham, the Lord Chief Justice, has told a committee of MPs that there is no reason for judges to declare their with those of the Audit Commission, ter six months with people who en- creed by the 3rd Lateran Council) membership of the Freemasons as there is no evidence that they had been corrupted by their connections with the secret society.

To suggest that there is no evidence that any judge has ever been diverted from his duty by any conflict arising from membership of the Freemasons beggars belief. How can it possibly be known if there has been a conflict of interest if we do not know which judges are Freemasons and which are not?

Since Lord Bingham says he knows that there are only a "minute" number of Freemasons in the judiciary, it follows that he is party to this information. As citizens who come within the compass of the judiciary, we should be allowed to share this information.

GEORGE McKELL Crieff, Perthshire

### Watchdogs with teeth

YOUR leading article of 11 March, which criticised the National Audit Office's report on water pensions and suggested that there is disparity in the rigour of treatment between local and central government, was uncharacteristically inaccurate.

When dealing with the improper use of public funds, the NAO also names those responsible. Recent reports on English Heritage and Swansea Institute of Higher Education illustrate the point.

ditors, which is by definition specific to individual councils, the Audit Commission prefers to focus on best practice. When dealing with matters of value for money, as the water pensions report did, the Audit Commission, far from naming and shaming, have a policy of naming only those authorities which fare well in their assessment - poor-per-

forming authorities remain anony-

it is important to remember that, un-tered his programme. This and the model of the religious crulike the Audit Commission, the programme has been developed and sading orders which the new NAO report is but the first stage in made available to all community the process. NAO reports form the basis of a public interrogation of the responsible officials. Try telling Peter Davis, the former Director General of Oflot, that the NAO/PAC process lacks bite.

In the past week we have had a hard-hitting NAO report on the sale of the rolling stock companies and a very strong Public Accounts Committee report on the Child Support Agency. These hardly indicate a tendency to pull punches. DAVID DAVIS

Chairman, Committee of Public Accounts House of Commons

### London SWI

Nicotine patches

MILLY JENKINS ("Nothing's a patch on will power", 10 March) implies that pharmacists sell nicotine replacement products (NRT) as though all a smoker has to do is use them and they will automatically quit smoking.

The vast majority of pharmacists and their staff are fully aware that NRT is merely a tool - though a very powerful tool - to help people giv-ing up. No tool - including NRT, hypnosis, acupuncture or smoking cessation clinics - will succeed unless the person has passed the stage Southport, Merseyside

Other than the work of district au- of "pre-contemplation" and are actually ready to give up.

Many pharmacists go much far-

ther than giving "minimal advice". Indeed it is in the pharmacists' interests to ensure that the person trying to give up gets as much support as possible. Every person who successfully quits will encourage others to try the same method. Many pharmacists provide successful smoking cessation advice in a variety of formats. One pharmacist in Belfast When comparing NAO reports has had a 46 per cent success rate afpharmacists and is currently being piloted and evaluated in a number of health authorities, including Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster. TONY CARSON

Community Pharmacy Facilitator Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster Health Authority London W2

### First birds

YOUR science editor describes a turkey-sized creature with a long neck and a movable snout enabling it to open the mouth for large morsels of food ("Skull discovery shows that birds are descended from dinosaurs", 19 March). These, you claim, were "early birds". Whatever sort of worms did they catch? PAMELA DONOHUE

### Prisoner exchange

THERE IS a simple solution to the recent prison problems. Transfer all the immates of Wormwood Scrubs to the Maze, and all the prisoners in the Maze to Wormwood Scrubs. Alternatively, leave the inmates where they are, and let the two prisons swap PETER REYNOLDS

### Vatican whitewash

YOU WERE right to dismiss the Vatican statement on the Holocaust as "whitewash" (report, 17 March)? Far from being an adequate "act of repentance" it is more of a tactical deflection of criticism of the Church as an institution by shifting the blame on to individuals.

In fact the opposite was often the case, with something of the credibility of the Church being salvaged by the exceptional heroism of individuals like Frans Jagerstatter in the face of overwhelming institutional indifference or hostility.

The Nazis drew widely upon the centuries old prejudices which have been nurtured by the Church, such as the Servitus Judaeorum (the "perpetual servitude of the Jews" de-"knights" of the SS were expected to

As with the previous denial of any responsibility by the Church for the genocide of American Indians during their enforced "Christianisation" or more recently the denial by the Church of responsibility for individual cases of clerical abuse, it is not only the act but the denial which is destructive. It induces a paralysis of confidence in the institution.

Fr DOMINIC KIRKHAM

### Nothing to do with me

alcy, in politics are

LEST SILENCE be taken as confirmation of the assertions in Tim Hulse's article "The subjects still object to Queen Camilla" (17 March), I should like to make it absolutely clear that I have not played "a major role" in influencing the discussions of the 'Way Ahead group". I have had no involvement whatsoever in these deliberations; I know only as much about the work of the "Way Ahead group" as anyone else who follows coverage in your newspaper and others.

PETER MANDELSON Minister without Portfolio Cabinet Office London SW1

# And here is the news, read by a man with a calm, measured, statesmanlike voice



VERY UNUSUAL JOBS INDEED No 37 in a series: The woman who auditions voices for BBC Radio.

"IF YOU can't remember what a voice sounds like, that probably means I've chosen the right voice for the airwaves."

The speaker (and a very nice voice it is too) is Eleanora Grebe, whose job it is to make sure that the voice fits the role on BBC radio. Does that mean that some voices

would be no good for some roles? "Of course. A man who sounds good reading the news would sound awful interviewing Gordon Brown, and vice versa. Think of all the programmes like PM and The World at One and Today, where the newsreaders are unhurried, and measured, and calmly statesmanlike, with slightly deep voices. Then think of the presenters, who are all slightly urgent, as if they thought that what they were saying was burning to be said, and are dying to

get on with it. You could never have Brian Perkins interviewing anyone, as his questions would sound too complete to need an answer. By the same token you can't imagine John Humphrys reading the news. I don't think you'd really trust him. Oddly enough, people like Brian Perkins are also ideal when reading out very silly news cuttings on The News Quiz, as their measured, grave tones make the idiocy sound even more funny.

"Actually, the news is probably easier to read than the weather forecast, because the weather readers have to grasp your attenthe news, and you miss the item about Jonathan Aitken or relaxation on the beef ban, then there's no harm done, because it was going to be boring anyway. But if you miss the forecast for your corner of the UK, you've missed out something vital to your life. So the weather men have to be crystal clear." Would she call Ian McAskill clear? Some

people can't make out a word he's saying. "It's very important to have regional accents on the weather," says Eleanora Grebe, avoiding the question, "and it's also important to have a weather forecaster that Rory Brenner can imitate. Without McAskill, who

could he do on the weather front?" There seems to be a preponderance of Scottish accents when it comes to the regions, Is this to satisfy the touchy Scots?

"Not really," says Eleanora Grebe, "In fact the Welsh are touchier than the Scots, and we should have more Welsh accents, but ton much more. If your attention wavers from most of the men we employ who are proud of being Welsh, like John Humphrys, have unfortunately lost their Welsh accents. We have seriously considered trying to train him to get it back, but it's probably too late.

One way in which we have contrived to placate the Scots is to place Scotland first in the weather forecast on Radio 4, so the Scots think they are getting preferential treatment. Newsnight item on her death, asking ques-

What they don't realise - and I'd rather you tions like 'If you knew her death was on the didn't mention this - is that first in the weather forecast is the worst place you can get, because nobody ever listens to the first bit of a forecast, on the grounds that they assume

their home area will never be dealt with first." What sort of voice is used for really weighty announcements? I mean, when war starts or when, God save us, the Queen Mother dies?

"Oh, we have already sorted out who is going to announce the Queen Mum's death. In fact - and I'd rather you didn't mention this - it has already been recorded. All the announcements and the tributes are ready to roll. In fact, I am told that Jeremy Parman -who, by the by, would be the worst person possible to announce the Queen Mum's death, because he would sound as if he were trying not to laugh - I am told that Jeremy Paxman has already recorded a special

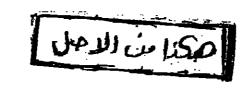
cards, why wasn't something done about it and will heads roll?!?"

Finally, after the Welsh and Scots, what about Irish voices? What is the BBC's current policy on Irish voices? Why was Gerry Anderson given the boot when he had such a nice voice? Is Sean Rafferty being inserted into Radio 3 to rival Henry Kelly's success on Classic FM? Whither Terry Wogan? Whence Frank Delaney? Is BBC radio being plastered with Irish accents the way pubs are turned into Irish theme pubs? What IS the BBC's policy?

"Til tell you. Our policy is to encourage the Irish voice in all areas but one. We will never let an Irishman read the news." Why not?

Because he would sound like EITHER Ian Paisley OR Gerry Adams . Think about

I do think about it. And it makes sense.



# Only Ulster's own parties can break out of the maze



### DONALD MACINTYRE THE NEGOTIATORS' FINAL TASK

IN NORMAL times, or what passes for them in Northern Ireland, the depiction on BBC Radio by a prison officer of the frighteningly aberrant regime at the Maze might have created more of a sensation than it did. Even so, the problems of imposing order on a system which has claimed the lives of 29 prison officers in 25 years would be as daunting for this government as it was for the last. But these are not normal times; the prisoners of the Maze, both loyalist and republican, will be at once actors and subjects in the peace talks which resume in Belfast on Monday. Actors because they contain some of those who will need, on both sides of the divide, to be satisfied if Sinn Fein and the two paramilitarylinked loyalist parties are to acquiesce in a settlement. Subjects because their release, at least after any settlement, is bound to be an issue in the talks. In such circumstances any attempt suddenly to turn the Maze into a normal prison would, even supposing it were possible, threaten the peace process itself. The big picture, in short, does not allow such a course.

This is a deeply shocking fact. But no more shocking than some of the other calculated, rule-bending risks the Blair government has already taken in the quest for peace. The refusal to be hung up on demands for prior decommissioning of IRA arms, Blair's willingness to meet Gerry Adams when circumstances require it, the return of Adams himself to the talks on Monday after the briefest of exclusions in response to two IRA murders, perhaos the non-extradition of Roisin McAliskey, certainly Mo Mowlam's own meeting with paramilitaries at the Maze itself, are all examples of what John Major didn't - and given his perilously slender Commons majority - probably couldn't, allow in his own dogged search for peace. Blair's temperament and parliamentary supremacy have been applied to kick away every removable and unnecessary obstacle to a settlement. And of course the ter the talks directly. end justifies the means. For the end, if it is

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reached, it something very big indeed. is a deadline. The talks will start with a new dares to put the chances of success at around intensity on Monday because they are in- 55-45 per cent - are convinced that Adams tended to finish by Easter - just three weeks and McGuiness genuinely want a settleaway - with a date for a referendum pencilled ment. But even if they didn't, it could hardin for 22 May. If ever there was a time for ly be more obvious that Blair has taken every mainland Britons to shake themselves out of possible step to keep them in the process. Simthe numb mood of denial that characterises

their view of Northern Ireland, it's now. Government participants in the talks have already seen some interesting things: a role prospect of a return not only to war but to play in which Seamus Mallon, the SDLP's deputy leader, and Jeffrey Donaldson, the new young Ulster Unionist MP, were asked to swap the rule book in his impatient search for peace. positions and imagine aloud what the ad- And if the waters close over the parties this vantages of a lasting settlement would be for time, it's unlikely to be the Government which the other. Mallon's enumeration of the takes the blame.

benefits of knowing the status of Northern Ireland could not change without the consent of its majority, of belonging to the biggest par-ty in a new assembly, and of remaining in the United Kingdom, is said to have been a tour de force. Reg Impey, the Ulster Unionist coordinator, eloquently challenged Sinn Fein, during the London phase of the talks to admit it had never really tried to understand the hopes and fears of a million Unionists. There have been sharp exchanges on the nationalist side in which Mallon has invited Martin McGuirmess to inhabit the real world and distinguish between what is achievable and what isn't. And while the UUP has so far steadfastly resisted Tony Blair's and - this week in Washington, Bill Clinton's - urgings to talk directly to Sinn Fein and not simply through the chair, there was even a moment when its deputy leader John Taylor was caught laughng at a McGuiness joke.

But while all this is engagement of a sort, it does not make a settlement. The outlines of that are well known: a Belfast assembly, crossborder bodies, a new form of British-Irish relationship and the abandonment of Dublin's constitutional claim to a 32-county republic. But so are the difficulties. Even supposing you can reach agreement on a strong assembly with a cabinet-style executive, how can a coalition that includes ministers from both Sinn Fein and Ian Paisley's DUP operate in practice? Should the executive require a majority way above 51 per cent for any decision to ensure power is genuinely shared? And even this pales behind the critical question of the cross-border bodies and whether they should be subservient to the assembly as the Unionists insists they should, or able to take binding decisions of their own as the nationalists want. These aren't intriguing little problems for a political science seminar: they have the real capacity to derail a settlement and plunge Northern Ireland back into darkness. And all this when David Trimble, the UUP leader, is hemmed in by rivals, inside and outside his party, who abbor the idea of any deal; and when Sinn Fein is already seeing defections to anti-settlement republicanism.

Blair nevertheless has assets. These include not only Mo Mowlam, the anti-politician's politician, who has proved to be the right woman at the right time, but also Paul Murphy, her own choice as political minister, and a shrewd, solid, Welshman, as patient as he is decent. They include, too, the real steel shown so far by David Trimble in withstanding the huge pressures on him to abort the talks. They include the support of Bertie Ahern, the Irish Taoiseach, whose nationalism is of a distinctly modernised form. And they include his own - as he himself has wryly suggested - "insane" - optimism that this business can be finished. There is every chance that as the deadline approaches Blair will en-

And Blair has one other asset: the grim

consequences of failure. Most of the involved The rule-bending is anyway finite; there British ministers and officials - one of whom ilarly on the Unionist side, Trimble's rivals and tormentors need to remember that Blair owes them nothing in the Commons, and the the hated Anglo-Irish agreement could be the bleak alternative. Blair has rightly thrown away

# If we are to live well, we must break the taboo of looking squarely at death

The BBC is being cricitised for filming a patient dying of cancer, but, says Suzanne Moore, we can no longer turn away from reality

WE HAVE all seen a lot of death on TV. Grisly deaths, peaceful deaths, realistic deaths, ridiculous deaths, the dying uttering famous last words or going to the grave carrying the secret of the plot. If you are a fan of ER or Casualty or even Hollyoaks you will have seen countless scenes of medics sensitively telling bereaved relatives the news. Do you ever get used to it, you wonder, as the beroine of Martin Amis's new novel Night Train wonders. Does it ever become everyday?

In real life I have seen two people die which is more than some and a great deal less than many others. One was my mother and one was an unfortunate woman who died on the bus next to me in Oxford Street. "Give her a nudge," love," said the bus conductor when we got to the end of the route as the elderly woman next to me appeared to have nodded off. When she did not respond, the ambulance was called and I was shocked not just because someone had died peacefully while sitting next to me but by the necessary violence of the medical teams efforts to resuscitate her. There she was in public being thumped about. They tried for ages before they let her go. Perhaps I should have looked away but I felt somehow involved and because even with such a public death I knew that what was happening was way beyond my understanding.

Now a real-life death is to be shown on TV. In a major new BBC series called The Human Body, presented by the fertility expert Lord Winston, the last moments of a dying man will be shown. This is taboo busting of the highest order. Real death, as opposed to the representation of death, is the final frontier for television. Both the Daily Mail and the London Evening Standard have run highly critical pieces about this. No one questions the credentials of the programme's presenter, Lord Winston, who, as a doctor, is acknowledged to have been highly sensitive in the way that this particular death was filmed. The dying man gave his permission, yet



The plain fact of death: a necessary sight for the living

Photograph: Chris Watt

what seems to upset most people is the very idea of filming death itself. But if we are truly worried about death for death's sake, about the inherent voyeurism in all of us, we would not watch the movies we do, we would not drag our kids pround dungeons to see animatronic models of tortured and dying souls, we would not have been so excited about the possibility of pictures of a dying princess that were circulated at the time.

To say that death is a taboo subject is to say nothing new or even particularly interesting. To ask whether we should make it less taboo and how we may do so might be. Lord Winston's argument is really one about education. He wrote in The Times of the film: "Wwe are celebrating a special individual and if, in the process, we learn a little more about death itself, we augment his memory." Does seeing death make us understand it any more? No. I think it remains as mysterious as ever. We are not suddenly going to "come to terms", or any other banal phrase you care to use, with death by staring dying in the face - someone else's face. Yet our deliberate policy of making death invisible is clearly not satisfactory. The euphemisms, the hiding away of all evidence of death, the sanitised rituals surrounding it, result in increasing fear of death rather than an acceptance of it. The more modern and secular a culture becomes, the more terri-

fying death appears, for it

really is the end rather than the beginning of another form of

I will never forget being in Varanasi, in India, by the holy river Ganges where bodies wrapped only in thin sheets are burned on wooden pyres. When the skull finally explodes and pops, crowds cheer, as the soul has been released. At my mother's cremation, as is the routine, the coffin merely slid away behind curtains. To

ed hairdressers, televisions and where? To what? "Is the fire go- alcohol. Just like the living. Watching my mother die did not teach me much about how to die.

but a lot about how to live

ing to burt her?", cried my then four year old who kept declaring proudly and loudly throughout the funeral: "I know who is in the box. It's my

Watching my mother die did not teach me much about how to die but a lot about how to live. The enormous relief that came over her face when I took her to a hospice remains with me. Everything changed from that moment on. As long as someone is in hospital it doesn't matter how terminally ill they are, there is some sort of pretence that things are not as bad as they really are. Successful pain management is supposedly available to NHS patients but I'm sorry to say I

At the time I felt very angry that other people seemed to be dving better deaths than my mother. There was Dennis Potter with Melvyn, flying on morphine and mesmerising us with his eloquence, making us believing - the common reacfeel his very aliveness. There tion to a corpse is always that was Derek Jarman confronting in his art the shutting down of before, yet there is something his body. And there was me and my Mum still having the understand the difference besame old rows. "Why can't you just smarten yourself up?", she yelled while she lay with tubes coming out of every part of her body. Why, I thought,

can't she have any great philo-

sophical insights about dying?

PERSONAL LOANS

Once we reached the bos-

pice not only was the pain con-

trolled but the visibility of

death, of what was actually hap-

pening, was present. Everyone

had their own room and as

much privacy as they wanted,

yet the humanity and honesty

was not simply a failure of med-

icine but the inevitable end of

an intimate journey. It was ac-

cepted that the dying still want-

She had only the one: that she wasn't ready to go.

So I imagine her death was fairly average because death is fairly average. I didn't sell pictures of her dying to flog jumpers, as Bennetton did with their notorious picture of of the staff meant that death a man dving of Aids. I didn't use it to make multi-media art. as artists such as Bill Viola have done. I didn't publish pictures of it to end some kind of political injustice, like great photographers such as Don McCullin have done, I have exploited her death only by writing about it. Yet I am writing about it now because I saw it: and that, these days, is unusual. I have no desire to see anyone else die before my eyes. I may or may not watch the controversial programme in question but I want the right to.

To look at death makes us realise us that every death is a private and individual act, whether there are witnesses present or not. With the dying, seeing may not necessarily be they look exactly the same as imperceptibly different. Yet, to tween death and life, sometimes one has to see it. Hiding death away does not cheat it. It deceives us into feeling that we might live for ever, rather than live as well as we can while we have the chance.

# Loyalty, in politics and beyond, has become the lost virtue



**AARONOVITCH** ON THE END OF TRUST

I IMAGINE Professor M A Leschziner to be a man in his mid-forties with a small beard, an unreliable temper and a penchant for bow-ties. But whatever his looks, he is certainly angry.

Two weeks ago in my local freesheet, the Camden New Journal, the Professor wrote a furious letter denouncing the actions of the local Labour council as being "wholly incompatible with the concept and ethos of a caring, accountable and socially responsible/responsive authority". The incident had strained his political loyalty. 'Let it be known," he continued, "that I am (soon was?) a member and strong supporter of the Labour Party in national as well as local government." Let it be known, indeed.

But what was the occasion for this blast of outrage? The abandonment of socialism? Gross corruption? Not at all. it was something far closer to home. Professor Leschziner's cause for complaint was "two ill-gotten parking tickets and an obscene charge for towing of an age now past was illustrated by away my car, left parked legally with a clearly displayed resident's permit in a bay suspended at short notice". This. plus the subsequent unhelpfulness and discourtesy of the Labour council in returning the professor his money, had clearly strained his loyalty to the limit.

At which point one might ask, "What loyalty?" I don't know why the professor was attracted to Labour in the first place. But his motives may well have included such great abstracts as the pursuit of equity and social justice. Yet, here the professor has personally encountered a far-flung encampment - an outpost - of real politics, touching his own life and it has been enough to alter his perceptions.

This seems odd to me, but then it would. For several years, I was a member of the Communist Party of Great Britain, almost by inheritance. My parents were communists and so were many of their friends, who were also - as far as I could see - decent, brave people with an enhanced sense of personal morality and responsibility. Many of them had stuck with the party through the Cold War and the Hungarian Uprising of 1956, so they were unlikely to be put off by, say, Mr Krushchev's attitude towards parking

in suspended bays. But loyalty - to party and to fellow members - sometimes made them purblind. Its invocation was an easy way for those at the top (or, indeed, just as often, those at the bottom) to avoid or stille awkward debate. And it made sense, for if each individual scruple or difference were made the occasion of an open struggle, then the party could never survive. A choice had been made when taking out the party card.

the writer Henry Louis Gates in last week's New Yorker. He contrasted the behaviour of Nixon's secretary, Rose Mary Woods, who took the rap for erasing key Watergate tapes in the early Seventies-with that of former Clinton aides who, as the bimbos erupted recently, put clear water between themselves and

their former boss. But the Clinton saga offers other perspectives on the conditional status of loyalty today. The behaviour of former White House aide Linda Tripp, in recording the confidences of the young Monica Lewinsky (including the use of

ing employees. Every sensible worker knows that if you have two good ideas, then you should give only one of them to your current boss, and keep the other for your next job interview. Two decades of globalisation and we all understand that we are on our own.

Companies cannot complain about this. There is nothing more ironic than

watching well-heeled executives turn

round after years of downsizing and

appeal to the loyalty of their remain-

So do the consumers themselves. One of the most wonderfully inappropriate (though effective) PR concepts of recent times is the supermarket "loywhat is now known as the "Tripp alty" card. The deal on the loyalty card

One of the most wonderfully inappropriate (though effective) PR concepts of recent times is the supermarket 'loyalty' card

remember. Any consideration of the actions of the young Victoria Aitken, who may have been prepared to peris her dad that we should worry about.

Victoria apart, loyalty is now, in general terms, a much less attractive and fashionable commodity than once it was. Instead of existing for its own sake, it is increasingly subjected to a consumer-benefit test before it is tendered. Why should one accept anything or anyone "right or wrong"? What would be the advantage of declaring an alleg out the party card. It is wiste of time. It is thut
That this form of loyalty is a feature giance and obstinately maintaining it? whose marketing equates loyalty with cynicism, not scepticism.

wire"), constitutes as remarkable a is this if you spend more money with display of personal disloyalty as I can us, we'll make it cheaper for you. The "Mercenary Card" would be a more ethics of Ms Tripp - who may well be truthful name for this material transtelling the truth - makes one salute the action, which entirely lacks the human quality of sympathetic identification, of the abdication of self that the ture herself for her father. As ever, it word loyalty implies. The loyalty card, then, is a lie.

> Now, even one of the few areas to have escaped this cynicism, the passion for a particular football team, has found itself under assault. What can Newcastle United fans have made of the succeing comments made about them and their gullible support for the Magpies by the chairman and vice-chairman of the club they love? These same men,

the purchase of club goods, then deride the supporters for wasting their money on over-priced goods. However frantically the two men apologise, the fans now know what their loyalty bought them: contempt.

It is hardly surprising then, that political loyalty should also have suffered the attrition of cynicism. In Westminster and on the political talk-shows, the byword for New Labour sycophancy is the MP for Peterborough, Helen Brinton. Hers seems a horrid lovalty, with its use of the approved phrase, the courtier's attention to her master's phraseology and the repeated demand for loyalty for its own sake. This appears to us like the dark loyalty of a Speer, or a Molotov.

But I'm full of despair at the alternative, too. Step forward Bob Marshall-Andrews, also a new MP for Labour. Old Bob is not a loyalist; Bob is a character, a new Austin Mitchell now that we are tired of the old one. Bob is lionised in TV studios around Britain, for he can be relied upon to put the humorous boot into Blair. Not for Bob the awkward task of defending the unpopular, merely because his own party is implementing it. Interviewed about the Dome, for example, Bob tells us that he hopes so very much that it will be a. success, but that he's terribly afraid that it will be a complete fiasco.

So, I do not love either of them. I understand the rush away from unqualified support; any ex-communist should. Yet, if you have chosen to support an idea or a movement or a person (and I hope that you will), your desertion at the first disagreement or pratfall merely strengthens the view that joining anything, supporting anything, is a waste of time. It is thus a victory for



BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER.

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# Senior UBS executive quits as 'defection' claims surround his team

A SENIOR executive with Swiss bank UBS has quit amid rumours he tried to defect to a rival bank with as many as 25 of his team.

TJ Lim, currently global head of fixed income, derivatives and foreign exchange at UBS, has "decided not to take up his designated position" as head of rates, derivatives and structured products at Warburg Dilformed by the merger of UBS and Sants, co-head of European equities. SBC according to banking sources. and Andy Siciliano, global head of

job lined up", according to one in- Lim's designated boss. sider, and is likely to stay with UBS until the integration with SBC is complete at the end of June.

ecutives at the two banks are uncomfortable with the merger process. ering their positions include Hector 25 colleagues defect to the bank.

The derivatives chief has "no rates and derivatives at SBC and Mr

It is understood Mr Lim - thought to view his appointment at Warburg Dillon Read as a demotion - ap-The resignation is the latest in a proached Dresdner Kleinwort Benseries of indications that senior ex- son (DKB) last December. Mr Lim made a presentation to DKB executives, according to banking sources, Executives rumoured to be consid- and proposed that he and as many as

halt after he made "excessive" wage demands. One source said: "What he was asking for in profit share was more than people at Dresdner were prepared to stand for."

osed that his team retain more than half of their profits.

SBC sources said reports that Mr Lim was summoned to Zurich at the weekend for a dressing down from Jenrette (DLJ), the American bank.

Mr Lim's discussions with DKB the board were inaccurate. One are understood to have ground to a · source said: "Yes, he went to Zurich. I believe he met Marcel Ospel [SBC's chief executive] but I understand the tone of the meeting was conciliatory ... They were trying to find some common ground but un-Mr Lim is rumoured to have pro- fortunately they were unable to."

News of Mr Lim's resignation came amid speculation about the future of Hector Sants, whose name has been linked with Donaldson, Lufkin &

to comment on the rumour, saying Mr Sants was still with the bank.

Speculation has also surrounded the future of Andy Siciliano. Ironically, it is understood to be Mr Siciliano's appointment as global head of foreign exchange and fixed income that helped push Mr Lim - his junior - towards DKB.

SBC is believed to have offered Edson Mitchell, head of bonds at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, the job

An SBC spokesperson declined of head of fixed income at Warburg Dillon Read. If Mr Mitchell had accepted the job, he would have assumed most of Mr Siciliano's responsibilities. Mr Siciliano remains with SBC for

the time being, but insiders have speculated that his departure is purely a matter of time". Banking sources have indicated that SBC is still considering hiring someone to take over Mr Siciliano's

Telecom

watchdog

calls for

policing

overhaul

DON CRUICKSHANK, the

outgoing director-general of

telecommunications watchdog

Oftel, yesterday called for a com-

plete overhaul of the regulation

of the communications industry

which would see the creation of

In a submission which will be

presented to the Select Com-

. mittee of the Department of Cul-

ture, Media and Sport next week,

Mr Cruickshank argued that the

present regulatory system is ill-

equipped to deal with the rapid

convergence of telephones, tele-

visions and computers and needs

sorting out what the new system

should be," he said. "The present regulatory structure is creaking.

and the overlaps are creating un-

certainty. 'No change' is simply

Mr Cruickshank proposed

that regulation of the electron-

ic communications industry be

divided between two bodies

The first, to be called the Elec-

tronic Communications Com-

mission, would control all

competition and economic is-

sues. The second, known as the Electronic Communications

Standards Authority, would police content and public stan-

that, as technological advances

removed capacity constraints in telecommunications and broad-

casting, the old system of reg-

ulating by handing out licenses

for scarce capacity would no

longer work. As a result, he pro-

posed an "Open State" in com-

operator would be allowed to

offer a service as long as it abid-

able via television or the inter-

Meanwhile, content avail-

ed by a set of general rules.

munications, where any

Mr Cruickshank argued

Tim Ca. Court of the street

it is car and

dards broadcasting.

"We simply can't dither over

to be changed quickly.

not a viable option."

two new regulatory bodies.

By Peter Thal Larsen

fixed income responsibilities.

# Vauxhall's Luton plant saved after **Blair intervenes**

and Barrie Clement

GENERAL Motors last night backed down following the personal intervention of the Prime Minister and agreed to guarantee the long-term future of its Vauxhall car plant at Luton. safeguarding up to 20,000 jobs.

After a day of talks with trade unions, who were concerned about the serious threat to the plant, Vauxhall announced it would maintain all its UK operations well into the next millennium, provided they achieved world class productivity standards

This means that the Luton plant will build the successor model to the Vectra, subject to agreement on a cost and productivity deal with the unions. GM has been contemplating building the car only at two plants on the Continent.

The climbdown follows intense pressure on General Motors from Tony Blair and Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, to persuade the US car maker to honour its commitment to "build where it sells".

derstood to have met management at Luton during a recent tour to promote the New Deal for the unemployed. Mrs Beckett had also been in contact with the company, even though the Government's room for manoeuvre was limited because the Luton plant, which employs 4,500 workers, is not in an area eligible for regional aid.

At a press conference yesterday morning to confirm that the Government will invest £25m in a new £160m van plant in Birmingham being built by LDV and Daewoo of Korea, Mrs Beckett went out of her way to urge a rethink by GM. "Our message to them today is clear. Everyone else is expressing their interest in Britain as an automotive workshop. Everyone else is saying this is a good base to do business and expand so obviously we hope GM will take these things into account in whatever decision they make."

Following yesterday's meeting with the unions, Nick Reilly, chairman of Vauxhall, said: "Today's meeting was the first step on the road to what I believe will be a strong and realistic agree-

low us to maintain all of Vauxhall's operations at world class standards of cost and productivity levels well into the next millen-

The unions will meet Vauxhall management again in a week. They concede that it is now 30 per cent more expensive to build the Vectra at Luton than at other GM plants and the situation has been made worse by the strength of sterling. The new Vectra, codenamed the Epsilon, will cost up to £1bn to develop and is due to appear on the roads in about four years. GM has already given a guarantee that one of the two plants chosen to build the car will be at Eisenach in eastem Germany. The selection of the other will be made in the next three months.

Before the meeting, Tony Woodley, chief union negotiator at the company, contended there could even be a question mark over the company's plant at Ellesmere Port on Merseyside which makes the Astra.

Mr Woodley, a national official at the Transport and General Workers' Union, said the more immediate threat overshadowed



Unions concede that it is now 30 per cent more expensive to build the Vectra (above) at Luton than at other GM plants

the Luton plant. He accused General Motors of engaging in "dirty deeds" in secret to ensure the future of the group's plants in Germany after unions agreed to job losses and wage cuts.

the European Union with a General Motors presence, which imports more of the company's cars than it exports. It was "com-

Britain is the only country in present "trade deficit" of £1.5bn with the company, but manage Luton were closed.

Mr. Woodley said that British unions might be prepared to ne- ment to the Vectra. pletely unacceptable" that the gotiate new productivity deals

would be increased to £1.8bn if ment had not held out any prospect that the Linton plant might manufacture a replace-

## Duty rise may force gaming underground

By Andrew Yates

THE GOVERNMENT's decision to raise gaming duty could drive gambling underground and promote illegal betting according to Capital Corporation. the London casino operator. The group also claimed yesterday the tax rise would prove a devastating blow for the British casino industry, and would prompt it to look at investing overseas rather than at home.

The surprise hike in duty by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, has forced Capital to halve its final dividend payment to 3p a share to help pay for a huge rise in its tax bill.

Capital forecasts the rise in the top rate of gaming duty to 40 per cent would have cost it almost £5m last year and could have an even bigger impact on profits in 1998.

Alan Hearn, the group's chief executive, lambasted the Government's decision. "This is a very very poor, ill-thought out measure. This is going to hit our shareholders."

Capital is now calling on the Government to reverse its plans. It is also considering taking up the matter with the European Court. "We will appeal to everybody we can," said Ernest Sharp, chairman of Capital.

Capital said it was still pursuing legal action against Kenneth Thompson and Des Pereira - the group's former chief executive and finance director respectively - over allegations that they have conspired to injure the company. The litigation follows the publication of a series of damaging reports about Capital over alleged lapses in security which rocked the group.

"The wheels of the law grind slowly. However, we are very confident that we will win the case," Mr Sharp said.

Capital claimed to have drawn a line under its former problems and that it had implemented tight cost controls which had contributed to the rise in profits.

Underlying 1997 profits rose by one-third to £16.4m. It was forced to spend £4m of that on advisors fees to see off a hostile bid from London Clubs. The economic turmoil in the Far East where many of the group's gamblers come from, has also taken its toll on at-

The number of Asian visitors to Capital's casinos have fallen by a quarter.

# FTSE 100 nudges nearer to landmark 6,000 level

By Diane Coyle Economics Editor

THE FTSE-100 index surged to within a whisker of the 6,000 level, the post-Budget euphoria in the stock market undimmed by concerns about the effect of the strong pound on industry. The index ended 94 points higher at 5.997.9.

The pound remained close to the nine-year high it touched earlier in the week, even though new economic figures vesterday added weight to the growing evidence that the economy is slowing down. The sterling index ended at 107.3, down

The debate about whether

By Nigel Cope

City Correspondent

stores this year.

of the strong pound, raged again yesterday.

Willem Buiter, one of the more hawkish members of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, said the tight jobs market still posed a risk to meeting the inflation target. "Earnings growth is key," he said.

He supported the claim by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the Government's fiscal policy was tight enough after the Budget, saying it had made a "significant contribution" to dampening the economy. Professor Buiter said he favoured an early interest rate rise, rather than the "wait and

pledged that the company

would remain independent in

spite of the move towards con-

solidation in the supermarket

controls 40 per cent of the

E2bn company, said he had no

plans to sell up: "We feel very

strong and if we go for growth

in the normal organic way we

can carry on as we have done

for the last 20 or 30 years. We

have had no serious ap-

Mr Morrison, whose family

needed or justified, in the light in a situation where it seems likely that a rate increase of some kind is necessary, you do get upward pressure on sterling in anticipation," he said.

The Chancellor repeated his economy depends on wage settlements. He said he sympathe high exchange rate but add about a quarter of a peradded: "At the same time they centage point to the inflation have to watch their wage rises. rate by January 1999, although Manufacturing wage rises have been higher than in other parts how quickly retailers passed of the economy."

The Engineering Employers' Federation, however, reported a slight downturn in pay deals, from 3.5 per cent to 3.4 per cent money measure, M4, slowing

Morrison to create 2,400 jobs in superstore openings

He conceded that the mar-

ket was becoming more com-

Somerfield and Kwik Save

succeed with quality stores and

value for money with its Price

Mission campaign, which guar-

antees 1,000 products on special

Mr Morrison was speaking as

offer every week.

would make it even more so.

petitive and that the merger of

But he said Morrison could

higher interest rates were see" approach. "By postponing, in the latest three months. The into single digits for the first time for no further interest rate in-

The Office for National Sta-

tistics pointed out that the duty increases in the Budgets in July warning that the outlook for the and earlier this week would themselves increase the measured inflation rate. It estimatthised with manufacturers about ed the net effect would be to the timing would depend on on the higher duties to

Other statistics yesterday showed the growth in the broad

proaches. We believe in inde- the group announced an 11.5 per include branches in Norwich,

cent increase in full year profits

to £151.5m. Like-for-like sales in

the six weeks since February

were 3.1 per cent ahead of the

tomers that way. We don't have

a loyalty card and we don't plan

The new stores next year will

Mr Morrison credited the

same period last year.

one," he said.

EEF said this vindicated its call since the end of 1996. Its annual growth rate was 9.7 per cent in February.

Separately, the high street banks and building societies reported weaker figures for mortgage lending in February.

Adrian Coles, director general of the Building Societies Association, said: "The traditional spring pick-up has come early to the housing market." The recovery was modest and sustainable, he said.

net would be classified into a number of categories, allowing But adding to together the bank and building society lendviewers to decide what type of material they want to be able to ing showed new advances amounting to £1.5bn, around the same as January's figure.

access before they see it. The submission which is seen as Mr Cruickshank's parting shot at Oftel before he

leaves the regulator at the end of the month, is likely to stir up the debate.

That structure is also favoured by the Independent Television Commission, which regulates both economic and content issues in broadcasting. Mr Cruickshank's plans would require the Government to scrap the existing Broadcasting and Telecommunications Acts and replace them with new legisla tion. The Communications Commission would take the place of Oftel, while the Standards Authority would take over much of the ITC's current role.

Outlook, page 25

### success to a philosophy of keeping it simple. "We maintain Group sales rose 5.6 per cent low prices and reward cus-

to £2.3bn. The dividend was raised 23.5 per cent to 2.1p. Morrison shares rose 16.5p to

Letchworth and Killingworth.

clude Halfway in Sheffield, and

its first store in the south of Eng-

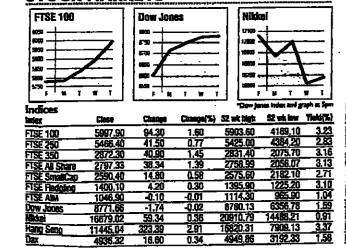
land in Erith, Kent in October.

The group currently has 85 su-

This year's openings will in-

Envestment column, page 26

STOCK MARKETS



WILLIAM Morrison, the Brad-

ford-based supermarket group,

yesterday announced plans to

create 2,400 jobs next year as

part of a programme to open

seven new superstores. The

jobs are in addition to the 2,000

that will be added in five new

rison, the group's chairman,

The news came as Ken Mor-

Short sterling US long bond 3 march 1 yr chip 1 <del>pr cli</del>g

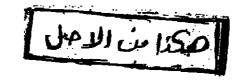
MAIN PRICE CHANGES

OTHER INDICATORS

**TOURIST RATES** 

Australia (dollars) 2.4227 Austria (schillings) 20.77 Belgium (francs) 60.98 Canada (\$) 2.3040 Cyprus (pounds) 0.8597 Denmark (kroner) Finland (marida) 9.0349 France (francs) 9,9149 Germany (marks) 2,9669 Greece (drachmel) 579.48 Hong Kong (\$) 12.52

Italy (lira) 2,923 japan (yen) Malta (lira) Netherlands (guilders) 3,3299 Norway (kroner) Portugal (escudos) 299.63 Spain (pesetas) 250.48 South Africa (rand) 7.9161 Sweden (kroner) 12.93 Switzerland (francs) 24227 Turkey (lira) 380,730 USA (\$) 1.6282



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OUTLOOK ON WHY GM HAS STUCK WITH LUTON. THE THREAT OF INDEXATION, AND CRUICKSHANK'S PROPOSALS FOR A SUPER-REGULATOR

# Blair drives a hard bargain with General Motors

cided to follow the advice of Roosevelt and speak softly but carry a big stick. General Motors' pledge last night to maintain opcrations at its Vanxhall plant in Luton, provided world-class standards of productivity are met, is a victory for the discreet diplomacy of the Prime Minister and Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade.

Luton is not in an area of the country that qualifies for regional selective assistance. Mr Blair therefore could not tempt Vauxhall to build the successor to the Vectra (the uninspiringly named Epsilon) at the plant with the promise of a fat government subsidy.

Instead he appears to have appealed to the company's better nature and per-suaded it that what is good for Luton is good for GM too. It is only possible to specu-late on what deals have been cut in smokefilled rooms, what arm twisting went on behind closed doors. But the fact is that multi-national companies are always keen to present themselves as good citizens in whichever country they manufacture.

Governments can make life particularly impleasant for car makers. It is a moot point whether Vauxhall would have been allowed to retain its designation as a British car maker-still an important consideration for many

and watch its balance of trade slip even further into the red as it imported yet more cars.

However, all good agreements are ones that allow both sides to claim victory. To be assured of the Vectra replacement, Luton will have to close the 30 per cent cost gap with its Continental rivals at some speed. It is a tall order but the Japanese have shown it can be done. Mr Blair may turn out not to be the only one with a big stick.

### Gartmore goes for indexation

The big active fund management groups have had a rough time of it lately. Try as they might, they keep on underperforming the index. Given that active fund management costs a good deal more than having someone track the index for you, this seems a pretty rum deal. Many trustees have come to wonder why they are employing these people. Gartmore Investment Management, one of the big four, yesterday came up with a wizzard wheeze to help stop the rot - er, rather than you having to go to the bother of moving to an indexed fund, they'll index

In the absence of a carrot, Tony Blair de- fleet buyers - if it had closed Luton down, your money for you. That way you can be guaranteed not to underperform.

To be fair, it's not quite as simple or silly as that. Gartmore plans to offer a mix of passive and active management within its core balanced fund product. A large slug of the money, in some cases the larger part of it, will be passively managed to satisfy accelerating demand from trustees for indexation. But the rest will be actively managed within "conviction" portolios that target higher returns. According to Gartmore, this will help clients establish the right balance between risk and reward.

It hardly needs pointing out that the idea won't necessarily solve the problem. If Gartmore continues to underperform in active management, then the balanced fund will underperform as well, albeit not by as much. Furthermore, if this is what trustees really want, what's to stop them dividing up the money themselves between active and passive managers? Actually this is what larger pension funds do already. Unfortunately it's generally not cost effective for smaller funds. So Gartmore is probably correct in believing there could be demand for this kind of product. Certainly a number of leading actuaries have been talking recently about the need for precisely this kind of thing.

All the same, the initiative does rather seem indicative of a general dumbing down of fund management. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em, seems to be the attitude of a growing number of active fund managers. Never mind the reality of indenation. Fear of it is driving fund managers into the index in growing numbers too, feeding its upward march, and making it more difficult still for the active managers to keep up.

### Dangers of overly vigilant regulation

Don Cruickshank seems determined to go out all guns biazing, doesn't he? This is his final month as Director General of Oftel and for a regulator who's already said there won't be any need to control telecom prices soon after the turn of the century, he's certainly packing it in. First he dispatched the mobile phone companies to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Now he's suggesting that Oftel is recreated as the Electronic Communications Commission, swallowing a large chunk of the Independent Television Commission's functions in the process.

There's obviously some logic in the proposai. The model is the Pederal Communications Commission, which has long been responsible for economic regulation of both broadcasting and telecommunications in the US. As the lines between traditional broadcast TV, cable, new media and telecommunications become more and more blurred, the opportunity for and complexity of anti-competitive practice is bound to grow. The ITC, which was set up to regulate a limited number of publicly franchised TV monopolies, is plainly not appropriate to the task in the modern world and Mr Cruickshank is right to suggest its activities be confined to content and quality.

However, if it is logical to absorb large parts of the FTC into Oftel, would it not also be equally logical to absorb Offel into the soon to be created Competition Authority. Mr Cruickshank's answer seems to be that electronic communications is too specialist a field, as well as too essential a utility, to be left to the wider competition authorities. He may be right, but there are dangers as well as advantages in having a busyhody specialist regulator digging around in emerging inclustries and technologies. Overly vigilant regulation can sometimes be more harmful to advance than a dominant monopoly supplier.

### US trade gap with troubled Asian economies balloons

THE US trade deficit with the troubled economies of Southeast Asia ballooned in January, the Commerce Department said yesterday. The shortfall between American exports to and imports from Indonesia leapt by 121 per cent to \$538m (£326m), and the gap with South Korea by 151 per cent to \$856m. The news that the politically sensitive bilateral deficit with Japan actually shrank by 15 per cent to \$4.36bn could not distract attention from a record headline figure of \$12.04bn for the monthly deficit on trade in goods and services.

Analysts said the weaker trade position would eat into the US economy's growth in the first quarter of this year. Other figures yesterday suggested that growth remained fast enough to raise inflationary pressure. There was a surprise increase of 0.3 per cent in the "core" consumer price index, although lower oil prices held the headline increase to 0.1 per cent. Real earnings jumped by 0.9 per cent in February following a similar increase in January.

### Irish Life on the lookout

IRISH LIFE, Ireland's largest insurer, which reported a rise of 21 per cent in 1997 operating profit yesterday, said it was seeking to broaden its penetration in the Irish market but could not rely on the right acquisitions coming on stream. "We want to broaden and deepen our options in the Irish financial services market." David Kingston, chief executive, said. "It would be nice to accelerate the process through a suitable acquisition but you cannot rely on that."

### Hanson property sell-off

HANSON, the building materials and equipment group sold its surplus UK property interests to O&H Holdings, the privately owned property and construction group, for £25m. The sale of 300 freehold properties completes Hanson's £86m disposal of non-operational UK property interests, the company said in a statement.

### Cobham cautious on planes

COBHAM, the aerospace components and defence group, yesterday warned aircraft manufacturers of the dangers of stepping up production rates to unrealistic levels in the light of the Asia crisis and said it was "monitoring events very closely" in the region. Cobham, which manufacturers a range of component systems for civil aviation plane makers, said it had experienced some weakness in demand from the Asian markets, but that, so far, its main Airbus order book had remained unaffected by the current turmoil in the region. The group yesterday posted a 19.7 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £52.3m, in line with analysts' expectations. The total dividend is being raised to 13.25p from 11.3p.

### Cattles keeps up growth

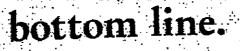
CATTLES, the financial services group, yesterday said it would maintain its growth record of 15-20 per cent for earnings and profits and hoped to increase this to 20-25 per cent growth in three to five years time. The group, which specialises in door-to-door collected credit but has been widening its services in recent years to other areas, reported a 17 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for 1997 to £39.6m, up from £33.9m the previous year. Eddie Cran, chief executive, said the group now had a record of 16 years of unbroken profit increases.

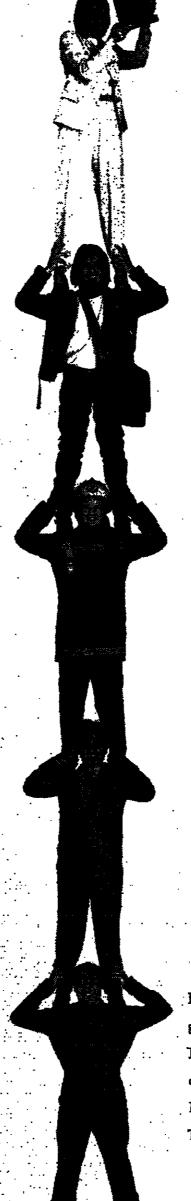
### Toad buys car audio firm

TOAD, the car security firm, plans to buy a firm called Sextons for £10m payable in cash and shares. It intends to fund the purchase through a placing and open offer of 25.5 million shares at 25p per share to raise £5.6m. Sextons is a distributor and installer of car audio and cellular telephone equipment and car security systems.

COMPANY	RESULTS	5		
COMILITIA	40220	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
	Turnover Z	68.4m (27.2m)	16.5p (4.7p)	5.0e (4.0p)
AMES (F)	2.77bn (2.76ba)	24.2m (22.5m)	9.34p (8.39p)	3.2p (2.9p)
Charles Stytest (F)	238.5m (218.4m)	51.1m (28.9m)	44.3p (31.4p)	10.0p (?.4p)
Badycota (F)	206.5m (128.3m)	24.7m (15.1m)	4.57p (3.3p)	2.30
Burleni (F)	38.7m (32.9m)	12.37m (9.43m)	7.86p (6.44p)	5.13p (8.13p) 9.8o
Capital Corp (F)	61.3m (43.5m) 375.3m (333.2m)	55.11m (33.86m)	27.8p (17.0p)	5.53o (4.8¢)
Catiles (F)	20.55m (17.44m)	7.85m (5.31m)	19.0p (13.6p)	13.30 (11.30)
Chysiopert (F)	322,8m (269,6m)	52 3m (43.7m)	39.3p (32.6p)	15.3p (15.3p)
Cabbara (F)	911.5m (1007m)	38 4m (0.4m)	26.4p (-5.0p)	17.0p (16.5p)
Courtesido Textilos (F)		21.38m (-9.32m)	46.9p (-32.9p) 16.2p (8.7p)	3.5p (2.3p)
Empa Halskow (F)	- (-) 11.23m (8.17m)	1.41m (0.752m)	15.0p (14.1p)	3.20 (2.750)
Fired Earth (F)	62.29m (37.96m)	9.31m (5.05m)	24.8p (16.2p)	10.0p (8.4p)
Japanes Fisher (F)		24.4m (32.3m)	15.1p (17.2p)	5.0p (5.7p)
Geest (F)	203.1m (146.9m)	K100 (000 111)	7.6p (9.0p)	1.8p (1.0p)
Hon (F)	106.5m (112.9m)		4.5p (15.9p)	ni)
Joyns Group (F)	18 7m (12 4m)	-(1,200) ( (a) · · · ·	22.3p (17.2p)	6.50 (5.69)
Johnson (F)	477 8m (426.9m)	55.1m (43.3m)	0.220 (-48.9p)	pl
Kell-FR (F)	113.4m (117m)		6 (40 (8 250)	1.80
MOIS (F)	5.28m (5.11m)	1,39m (1,33m) 151,4m (135,6m)	45 625 N LUID	3 2.1p (1.7P)
Mescupay Eresp (F) Wes Morrison (F)	9 29bn (2 17bn)	151.4m (135.6m) -2.72m (-0.998m)	<u> 8.53p (-3.48)</u>	) Pil
Makifiedia Carp (F)	n onem (2.35m)		ADJUST COMPANY	9,5p (8.1p)
Matternal Express (F)	1 13hn (0.482bn)	2.55m (1.83m)	4.78p (5.95p)	3.3p (3.3p)
Ractmood Mineral (F)	AR 50m (27,101)	2.4301 1.42	12.4p (12.7p)	5.80 (5.10)
Sendadir (F)	362.3m (153.9m)	3.70m (3.52m)	21.0p (18.1p)	8.0p (7.3p) 11.0p (10.0p
Swallowiteks (F)	49.7m (43.4m)	49.7m (39.8m)	33.8p (25.8p)	
Travis Parties (F)	555.8m (518.5m	64 1m (56.2m)	31.8p (28.3p)	4.95p (4.72p
Trinky lates (F)	324.8m (302.1m 89.4m (53.2m)	13.3m (3.05m)	9.81p (5.96p)	
United Intel (F)	00 Am (53 ATI)			

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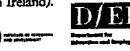




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there was no evidence that

own companies, in the alloca-

financial adviser, was criticised

ceived following the sale. The

size of the fee was linked to the

However, there was no in-

The NAO also says that

methodology and assumptions

even lower than the £228m

achieved, since some of the

£121m of restructuring charges

made by Schroders.

Schroders, the department's

By Michael Harrison

CAZENOVE and Schroders were sharply criticised yesterday by the public spending watchdog, the National Audit Office, for their role in advising on the £228m sale of AEA Technology, which has more than doubled in value since privatisation 18 months ago.

Shares in the company, the commercial arm of the UK Atomic Energy Authority. soared to a 15 per cent premium on their first day of trading in September, 1996.

Since then the shares have risen from an issue price of 280p to 662.5p, valuing AEA Technology at £566m.

The NAO criticised Cazenove, the Department of Trade over the £1.8m success fee it reand Industry's brokers, for failing to test demand for the shares at prices higher than 280p, pointing out that an inextent that the sale proceeds excrease of just 10p in the offer cceded Schroders' own estimate of the likely receipts. price would have raised the sale proceeds by £8m.

The NAO's report also reyeals that three Cazenove companies were among the institutions to which it allocated a total of 68 million shares.

The DTI's failure to oversee the allocation of these shares was criticised by the NAO.

before the flotation should rea-Atomic reaction sonable be regarded as sale AEA technology, share price, pence 662.5p

The chief executive of AEA technology is Dr Peter Watson, who was also the chairman of the train leasing company Porterbrook and made a £3m profit on his shares when the company was bought by Stagecoach. That sale was savagely criticised by the NAO in a report last week.

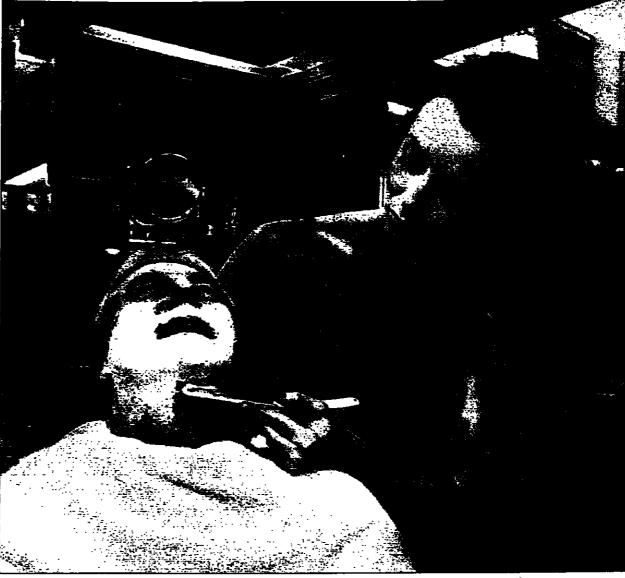
Total costs of advisers on the AEA flotation came to £8.134m. In addition to its success fee, Schroders received a Cazenove had unduly favoured basic fee of £560,000 while any institutions, including its Cazenove received £2.32m.

In its recommendations, the NAO said that in future the Government should consider the case for phasing sales - the flotation of AEA Technology involved 100 per cent of the

It also said that when relying on prior soundings taken in the market, the process should be conducted rigorously so as dependent review of the to give a good indication of the likely demand at different

Although Cazenove inprivatisation proceeds were creased the price range from 240-270p to 250-280p, there had to be significant scaling back of allocations after the issue was incurred by the Government heavily oversubscribed.

Swallowfield chairman in a lather about factory improvements



A MAKEOVER of its production facilities will help Swallowfield increase capacity for its cosmetic and skin care products, the toiletries company said yesterday as it unveiled a 5 per cent rise in annual profits. The company made a pre-tax profit of £3.7 million in 1997, compared with £3.5m in the previous year. The dividend will be raised 10 per cent to 8p a share. Bill Otley, Swallowfield chairman

(pictured above getting a shave), said the company was well advanced on factory improvements. We are optimistic that in 1998 we will maintain the organic growth in both turnover and profits reported over the last five years and our management team continues to use its knowledge and experience to maintain our core skills and Photograph: Daniel Newman

# Telewest relecons (rtill) name digital partners

TELEWEST Communications. Britain's second largest cable group, said yesterday it expected to name its chosen partners to offer digital services in April.

"It is likely to be one company as far as end-to-end hardware is concerned but different companies in terms of operating systems and ... conditional access," Stephen Davidson, the chief executive, said.

His comments came as the group said its annual pre-tax losses had widened to £309.9m from £250.0m but added that 1997 was a turning point.

Telewest said it believed pretax losses had peaked and that it was embarking on a steady path towards profit. Mr Davidson said he agreed with some analvst forecasts that the company had seen the beaviest of its loss-

He added that analyst projections that the group would break-even around 2002 were "ones we would agree with".

"It has been a year of enormous achievement. We generally see 1997 as a turning point. Strategic steps we said we would put in place we have put in place ... and 1998 has got off to a

cracking start," he said. Telewest, which saw earnings before interest, depreciation, tax and amortisation rise to £49.6m from £0.5m, declined to divulge the penetration targets it would have to meet to hit market projections. And the company, which reported key operating statistics in January. also declined to shed light on how merger talks were going.

With no statement announcing that negotiations are off, Telewest remains officially in bid talks with the Nasdaq-listed cable group NTL. It has also been on the receiving end of interest from one of its main shareholders - US West Communications Group - which has said es where staffing levels fell by | it is considering raising its 26.53

## National Express makes £20m profit on five rail franchises

By Michael Harrison

NATIONAL Express, the country's biggest train operator, made profits from every one of its five passenger rail franchises last year after receiving £500m in subsidies from the Government.

The transport group said yesterday that all its train operations beat their financial targets. achieving operating profits before restructuring charges of set out in its franchise agree-just under £20m. National Ex-ments.

of the five franchises - Gatwick Express, ScotRail, Midland Main Line, Central Trains and Silverline, formerly known as North London Railways.

The company also pointed out it was spending £240m on new rolling stock, and in the case of Scotrail and Central Trains investment levels were above those

£2.8bn in subsidies over the life formance came on the back of a 6-9 per cent rise in passenger numbers and increased levels of reliability and punctuality.

Phil White, chief executive of National Express, said standards of service had outperformed pre-privatisation levels quirements laid down in its franchise agreements.

National Express, a founder shareholder in London & Con-

that it had submitted an "indicative bid" in partnership with British Airways to take over the Eurostar train service.

The group expects John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, to grant a further 30-day extension to LCR to assemble and, in some cases, also the re-refinancing plans for the Channel Tunnel Rail Link when its current extension runs out at the end of this month.

National Express and BA are

The improved financial per- tinental Railways, confirmed examining two options. One is would be paid a management fee. to take over the Eurostar service between London, Paris and Brussels on a franchise basis, which would entail the Government providing subsidies in

> the Government to contract out the operation of the service, in because of BA's already domiwhich case the two companies nant position in the air market

**EDITED BY ANDREW YATES** 

FOR A business that is a

perennial takeover favourite,

Wm Morrison is actually do-

ing rather well. After a fal-

low period a couple of years

ago when growth seemed to

have stalled, the business

has re-started its store open-

ing programme, invested in

refurbishments and spent

money in distribution and

other areas like a new pack-

impressive as yesterday's

11.5 per cent increase in

full-year profits to £151.4m

confirms. The company has

now increased sales and

profits for 30 consecutive

years and this is all the more

so-called second-tier super-

markets that one might sus-

leading supermarket chains

such as Sainsbury's which has

not got a strong presence in

But with the Morrison

family owning 40 per cent of

the shares any deal would

need to be friendly and

record, it is not hard to see

why. The shares rose 16.5p

to a new high of 256.5p yes-

terday compared to a 149.5p

on keeping things simple. It

has no loyalty card and con-

centrates on keeping prices

Like Asda, it prides itself

chairman Ken Morrision

seems in no mood to sell.

the north.

a year ago.

The results have been

aging centre.

Colin Child, National Express finance director, said he did not believe it would be tainted by its involvement with LCR, which pulled out of its agreement the early years to cover operat- to build the rail link in February ing losses. Eurostar losses are after being refused a further £54.8m. currently running at £180m a £1.2bn in subsidies.

He also said the two compa-The other option would be for nies would address any competition problems that might arise

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

between London, Paris and Brussels.

The group's results for 1997 were hit by a £10.8m provision against its investment in LCR. This helped lower pre-tax profits from £60.1m in 1996 to

There were a further £17.5m of charges to cover restructuring costs, mainly in its rail franchis-700. A further 350 jobs will be per cent stake. shed in the rail division this year. +

## **Bulmer may sue Matthew Clark over** new-look cider

By Andrew Yates

BRITAIN'S two biggest cider makers could become em- see the two companies come broiled in a legal battle over best selling brands. HP Bulmer, the battle for a bigger slice of the market leader, is considering troubled cider market. suing Matthew Clark over its arch-rival's new look Dry Blackthorn brand. It is concerned that action is being taken at the mo-Dry Blackthorn now bears close resemblance to Strongbow, its own best-selling eider.

Matthew Clark is relaunching Blackthorn this week, backed by a £7m advertising campaign. The new bottles and cans of eider have a motif in the shape of a gold arrow on a black background. Bulmer already uses an arrow symbol on a black back- course we will respond vigor- at the situation." ground on its Strongbow pack-

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aging. Strongbow, like Blackthorn, is the subject of a high profile marketing drive which will head to head with each in the

A spokeswoman for Bulmer's said yesterday: "No legal ment and we are in discussions with Matthew Clark." Howevtaking legal action in the future.

Matthew Clark denied the two parties were holding detailed discussions. "We remain totally confident in its [Dry Blackthorn's] integrity," said a spokesman for the group. "Of ously if claims of this kind are



er the group did not rule out Clash of symbols: Rival cider brands both use an arrow

made. One phone call was thorn are the most popular cider made by Matthew Clark to brands in the UK and their fu-

Bulmer this morning [Thursday] ture success is vital to the fibut they did not commit them-nancial fortunes of both groups. selves and said they would look Competition in the cider market Strongbow and Dry Black- lowing a sharp fall in sales.

has intensified in recent years fol-

## GUS ready to resist US legal challenge to Metromail bid

By Nigel Cope City Correspondent

NO. 544419) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN yesterday pledged to fight the that the register of members lawsuit filed against it by a US of the Company will be closed company which is seeking to from the close of business break up GUS's £500m bid for on Friday, 27 March 1998 Metromail, an American datato Monday, 30 March 1998 anclusive).

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the register of holders of warrants of the Company will be closed from the close of business on Friday, 27 March 1998 and will not re-open if the proposals contained in the circular to shareholders and warrantholders statement when and if appropriate." dated 6 March 1998 are approved by shareholders and

Registered office: 1) Finsbury Circus. London EC2M 1NB mail's management.

By Order of the Board P A Hogwood, Secretary Dated: 20 March 1998

tion and the prospect of a bid an agreed deal with GUS at ing for GUS's management as **GREAT UNIVERSAL Stores** the Argos battle heated up. But they said the company

GUS, which is already people think that GUS has got embroiled in a £1.6bn bostile bid for Argos, said it noted the action initiated on Wednesday its bid for Argos. But most by American Business Information and said: "GUS intends to vigorously assert its

American Business Information, based in Omaha, has made a counter bid of £515m holders. American Business and launched legal action says it had stated its intention claiming that GUS had knowingly aided and abetted alleged than \$32 per share for the busibreaches of conduct by Metro-

Analysts said the legal ac-

auction could prove distract- \$31.50. could still pull off both deals. "Fighting on two fronts isn't traction," said Nick Bubb of SG Securities. "It might make

ideal but it is a limited disother things to do with its money and so might not raise people recognise that it could do both."

The court case is due to be rights and will make a further held next Friday. The claim alleges that Metromail directors failed to hold a fair auction for the company and so breached their fiduciary duty to shareto Metromail to offer more ness, subject to due diligence.

Analysts said GUS could increase its offer to \$35 per share and still not be accused of overpaying. However, some said Lord Wolfson, the GUS chairman was likely to walk away rather than get involved in an auction. He has already admitted that paying £500m for a company that made a loss last year, was a "full price." The collapse of the deal

would be a significant blow to GUS which had seen the business as a key part of its expanding database and information empire in America. It had wanted to put Metromail together with Direct Technology, a business it acquired last year and whose main office is only 10 miles

from Metromail's base. GUS shares fell 2p to 780p on the news. Argos shares It was completing that process rose a penny to 605p against when Metromail announced GUS's offer price of 570p.

Morrison is William Morrison Supermarkets: At a glance back on track Market value: £1.9bn, share price 256.5p ( +16.5p )

rive-year record	1993	. 1994	1995	1320	199 <i>f</i>
Turnover (£bn)	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.3
Pre-tax profits (2m)	97.8	116.1	127.1	135.8	151.4
Earnings per share (p)	8.6	9.9	10.7	11.0	12.5
Dividends per share (p)	1.0	12	- 14	- 17	21
Share price		Like:	ior like t trading,	sales %	
280 260 240 220 200	F	8		: 3	
180 160 140 120		4-			
199	7 08	Q Foo	ds Off	Non- Petr	ol Total

impressive as it is one of the north where it is successfully Group. The group has a two battling against Asda. Likefor-like sales were up by 3.1 per pect is under increased cent in the first six weeks of the

pressure from the major This is hardly startling but £109.3m in 1997, well ahead of With that pressure inthe group is also hoping to imcreasing due to consolidation prove the gross margin through in the sector, many have eximprovements to the distribupected the Bradford-based Morrison to succumb to an On NatWest Securities' approach from one of the

forecast of £165m the shares trade on a forward p/e of 19. That seems too high to chase for now, Hold.

### St James Place reaps rewards

Looking at the company's SIR MARK Weinberg did not do any favours for private investors when a committee he chaired effectively harred them from getting involved in the majority of new issues. But it is a different story at St James Place Capital, his upmarket life insurance group, which has rewarded shareholders, both productive precisely because tio of more than 20. After such

Though little known in over the last few years. the south east. Morrison is a very strong brand in Yorkshire and other areas in the for J Rothschild Assurance ont the earnings from LAHC, solid long term hold.

pronged strategy. First, it hires fitting new new tyres or fixing experienced sales people to pitch to rich clients. Total new business rose by 26 per cent to

the competition.

cent stake in the "vulture fund" life insurer, LAHC. The comsolidation in the life sector by buying ailing life insurers, closing them to new business and stripping out costs. In February, LAHC bought GAN (UK), a business with £2.8bn under management, which should add substantially to this year's carnings

Positive results saw the shares jump by 22 per cent to 283.5p. However it is not just strong trading that has prompted the strong share price performance. Prudential, which has boosted its stake to nearly 30 per cent, is its motored ahead 27 per cent seen as a likely suitor.

However, a bid is far from certain. Sir Mark believes a graded current year profits to takeover could damage JRA's around £63m, putting the business, where sales people are shares on prospective p/e rathey are independent.

St James Place reported St James Place Capital is esprofits of £51.8m, or carnings

Kleinwort Benson forecasts earnings next year of 11.2p, putting the group on a forward multiple of over 25, against around 20 for the sector. Now would be a good time to take some profits.

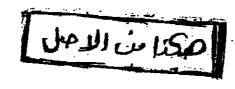
### Kwik-Fit finds new markets

KWIK-FIT'S pledge to give "100 per cent customer delight" has also been applied to its shareholders. Under the astute leadership of Tom Farmer, the group's irrepressible chairman and chief executive, its shares have outperformed the market by more than 85 per cent over the last five years.

There was never any doubt that Kwik-Fit was a master of dodgy exhausts. There was a nagging worry, however, that it would struggle to continue to grow so rapidly as its chain of centres reached satura-Second, JRA holds a 23 per tion point in the UK.

But Kwik-Fit has shown it can use its brand name to tap pany takes advantage of con- into new markets. Its motor insurance has taken off in a big way. The group has been able to use its captive customers to peddle new policies and sales are expanding apace. That could just be the beginning. Kwik-Fit believes it can eventually supply any service related to motoring. And expansion into Continental Europe is continuing apace.

The shares leapt 79p to 511p yesterday as the group announced that pre-tax profto £55m in 1997, smashing City forecasts. Analysts have upa sharp rise Kwik-Fit shares are not cheap and insurance profsentially a holding company per share of 8.6p. Stripping However the shares are a its are still unpredictable.



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# Telecoms frenzy boosts BT as Footsie nudges 6,000

MARKET REPORT



PETER THAL LARSEN

WHEN will the phone finally company was about to unweil US groups have recently rebeen stuck in a phoney war 47.5p to hit a new peak of 685p proposed marriage with MCI US long-distance operator decided to jump into bed with rival WorldCom.

regularly done the rounds in the City. With spring well and

Still, it seems that investors to a good telecoms story. BT itself was at the centre of the frenzy yesterday as finance US conference that the company was "talking to a number

of major players" in the US.

partners, a major constraint is the \$7bn (\$4.2bn) cash lump volving every conceivable pulling out of their merger. found another partner its rison's electronics company. truly sprung, not one of the lawyers might have grounds to many mooted offers has actu- argue that the payment wasn't when the FTSE 100 came necessary.

engagement.

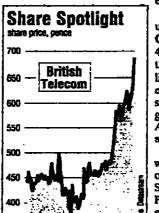
BT's possible partners in-

sum that MCI still has to pay 326.5p, with whispers sug- year ago. Since then, rumours in- BT as compensation for gesting a bidder may preempt the flotation of its combination of operators have MCI would dearly love to telecoms arm by snapping up avoid shelling out, and if BT the whole of Sir Ernest Har-

The frenzy came on a day

within a whisker of breaching That argument wasn't the 6,000 barrier for the first are still all too happy to listen enough to scare off the bulls, time. It eventually closed up though, who counter that al- 94.3 points at 5997.9. Traders though BT might not be able pointed to general post-budto sign a deal there is nothing get optimism and a strong director Robert Brace told a to stop it from announcing an opening from Wall Street for the rise, as well as tomorrow's expiry of the March FTSE clude AT&T and GTE, which futures contract. The sugges-Although experienced BT were both being named yes- tion was that the arbitrageurs

ring in the telecoms sector? a major transatiantic connect newed their search for deals in term factors, it seems that the rival US utility groups Texas 106p. GPG's offer stands at Britain's telecom stocks have toon, and the shares put on Europe, and a British mobile Labour government can do and Pacificorp, was the marphone company would fit well no wrong with the stock mar-ket's most active stock with ever since British Telecom's on hefty volume of 17 million. in either portfolio. Orange ket. A cool £17bn was added over 18 million shares traded. sults boosted Bodycote, the Although it's no secret that was up 17p to 428p while to the value of shares yesterday. US institutions are believed to fell apart last autumn after the BT is courting a number of US Vodafone added 35.5p to 617p. and the market has gained a be building up stakes in order The excitement even ex- whopping £300bn since Tony to take up Energy Group's all- at a record high of 1157.5p. tended to Racal, up 23p to Blair was elected less than a share offer, which is current-



Although these are short- two-way bid tussle between The shares slipped 5.5p to

edged up 0.5p to 840p. Media stocks also continerated 79p to 511p. ued their recent rise, with 488.75p and BSkyB up a further 10.5p to 455p. Lord Hollick's United News & Media even managed to shrug off the sale of 60,000 shares by outgoing managing director David Arculus. The shares closed at a record 815p, up 15p.

Hopes that a white knight will come riding to the rescue of Bluebird Toys faded after Sir Ron Brierley's Guinness Peat Group, which has mount-

A strong set of annual remetal processing specialist. Its shares ended the day up 110p Good figures also helped Cobly worth 865p compared to the ham, the engineering group, up Energy Group, stuck in a 840p cash bid. The shares 47p to 9785p while exhaust and tyre firm Kwik-Fit accel-

> Manchester United, once Carlton adding 16.75p to the City's favourite football share, continued its fall from grace after Wednesday's exit from the European Champions League. With Arsenal challenging strongly in the manager Farlake added it premiership, fans and share- to 265p. The shares hit a bolders alike are concerned that United could finish the season without any silverware. ¿ earlier this year. Schweco The shares were booted down

3p to 143p. Rivals Newcastle United, be linked to property however, shrugged off a 2-1

TAKING STOCK

SERVOMEX, making industrial instruments. continued its recovery after recent results turned out less bad than expected. The shares, up 20p to 322.5p yesterday, touched a new low of 244p just a few weeks ago. House broker Charterhouse Tilney has reshuffled the shareholder base and is planning to issue a buy note today forecasting profits of £3.8m for the current year and £4.7m in 1999, which puts the shares on a forward p/e ratio of ten. The broker points out that recent deals have occurred at much higher

OVER on AIM, tiny fund manager Fariake added 10p peak of 475p in 1996 before crashing to a low of 140p Nominees, whose beneficial owner is Derwent, thought to entrepreneur David Rowland,

source: Bloomberg

		watchers were hardly surprised, a number of investors felt the	were both being named yes- terday in connection with mobile network operators Orange and Vodafone. Both	might try to score a big profit by pushing the FTSE as high	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Peat Group, which has mount- ed a hostile bid for the Polly Pocket to Plasticine company, slammed Bluebird's prospects.	defeat by bottom of the kague Crystal Palace to put on 3.5p to 97p.  however, shrugged off a 2-1 entrepreneur David Rowland, has added 100,000 shares to lis holding, giving it a 19.16 per cent stake.
			<u> </u>	<del></del> -	<del></del>		
	97% 97 Berchert 97% 97% 97% 97% 97% 97% 97% 97% 97% 97%	2 number of investors felt the  11cws was evidence that the  12cws was evidence that the  12cws was evidence that the  12cws was evidence that the  12cms of the second of	Crange and Vodafone, Both	By Pushing the FTSE as high as 6050 tomorrow.  Street as 6050 tomorrow.  Street as 6050 tomorrow.  Street as 6050 tomorrow.  Street as 6050 tomorrow.  Price Cry Yet 791Code 1920 to 1	State   Stat	Street   Price   Company	Crystal Palace to put on 3.5p  10 47p.  Share Price Data Press are in starting encapt where stated. The yield it the latest twelve stoods 'declared gross detend as a percentage of the share press. The pricelearnings (PE) ratio is the shareprice and a percentage of the share press. The pricelearnings (PE) ratio is the shareprice and the share press. The pricelearnings (PE) ratio is the shareprice and the share press. The pricelearnings (PE) ratio is the shareprice and the share press. The pricelearnings (PE) ratio is the shareprice and the share press are shared as a percentage occeptionals.  Other detailsr is region, at Ex-dindent's E-sall's a Suspended, p Partly Pald np Nil Pald, "AIM.  Source Bloomberg  The independent Teleshare - Tel. (891 - 201 200  To access Read-Time Share Prices, 24 hours a day, call 8691 - 202 200.  You will hear the current FTSE 100 index followed by a Stock Marinet Summary Report.  You can enterrupt at any time to hear a Real-Time Share Prices by keying "plus a 4-dight 'code' from the integer on the page.  To get a Membership Number to set-up your Portfolio facility, pluste call the Help Desk on 0171-729-8288 (during business hours).  For help with the service, ancloding the Portfolio facility, call the Help Desk on 0171-729-8288.  ITS pic, London ECA 4PJi.  Seaq volunties 869.5m trades 74,236  Gilles index 103.80 - 0.42  Market Leaders: Top 20 volunties  at 560pm  South Vol Stock Vol S
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ity at its manufacturing

operations in Newcastle. It now

future profit growth for the

company were "very good in-

deed". Market conditions were

more favourable than they had

has fought hard to reduce its ex-

posure to cyclical swings in the

property market. Whereas large-

After being stung by the

Sydney Gilibrand, the chair-

cent from a year earlier.

been for 10 years.

By Andrew Verity

HOUSE BUILDERS and conreported much-improved profits but warned that higher inrecovery in sales.

Bovis, the British houseper cent in its first year as a separately-listed company. But Malcolm Harris, the group's chief executive, warned interest rates must not rise if the market was he said. to continue to expand.

last month and the very high pound, means that in our view there is no need whatsoever £92,000 in 1997, up slightly from now £107,000.

that interest rates should rise," he said, "In fact we would hope over the next two years they struction companies vesterday should moderate as we see an alignment of European rates."

Mr Harris said the group nevterest rates could damage the ertheless planned significant expansion in the north of England. It has doubled the size of its land builder, saw its profits rise by 60 holdings in big northern provincial towns. "The prime areas of the Midlands and the North are showing an element of catching up in terms of price increases,

Bovis now holds a total of The reduction in retail sales 2,200 acres of land, giving it the potential to build over 13,000 homes. Its average home sold for

£90,100 in the previous year.

Bovis, which last December tions saw a return to profitabil- duced to 60 per cent. was spun off from its former parent, P&O, reported profits of £37.3m, up from £23.2m last year. Shares rose yesterday by 15p to 261.5p.

Amec, the construction and engineering group, reported a rise in profits of 26 per cent to £47.5m, including a doubling of earnings at its house building subsidiary, Fairclough Homes.

Amec said Fairclough had benefited from a buoyant mar-1990s property slump, the group ketplace for property in the South-east where prices for its homes had risen by 24 per cent over 1997. The average price was

Amec's engineering opera-1987, this has now been re-

Travis Perkins, the timber and builders' merchant, said it expected has £3bn of orders, up by 9 per housing sales to be subdued under current market conditions. A strong pound was also keeping down prices for exports. man of Amec, said prospects for

Reporting pre-tax profits up 25 per cent to £49.6m in the first quarter, Tony Travis, the group's chairman, said: "Although the continuing strength of sterling is putting downward pressure on the average cost price of our products, our like for like sales in the first two months of the current year are 10 per cent scale building projects made up ahead of the figure for the 85 per cent of its business in same period of 1997."

### PEOPLE & **BUSINESS**

### IOHN WILLCOCK



WHEN Andrew Longhurst, once regarded as heir apparent to the top job at Lloyds TSB, quit as a director and chairman of the Cheltenham & Gloucester subsidiary in January, there was much gnashing of teeth in the West Country, Mr Longhurst's job had been "reorganised" out of existence by the Lombard Street establishment, ending his 30 year career with the C&G.

It all seemed very unfair, after the flamboyant Mr Longhurst had built the building society into what many regarded as the most efficient mortgage-making machine in the country. Now Mr Longhurst's successor has been appointed, in the form of John Bays, formerly deputy chairman of the C&G.

Meanwhile Sir Brian Pitman continues to go on and on as chairman of the parent group Lloyds TSB, with Peter Ellwood, the former Barclays and TSB high flyer, now well ensconced as chief executive. We wish Mr Longhurst well.

PETER BIRCH, who retired as chief executive of Abbey National at the end of last month, has been appointed chairman of Trinity International, the UK's largest regional newspaper group. Trinity owns the Liverpool Echo, Belfast Telegraph and Western Mail, as well as 120 other titles.

Mr Birch already has a string of non-executive directorships, including Argos, Dalgety and Land Securities. He spent most of his career as a marketing man with Gillette before cutting a dash in the City. He joined Abbey in 1984 and steered the building society through the very first demutualisation.

The directors at Trinity can relax, though, since they don't need floating. Mr Birch certainly isn't doing the new job out of any need for cash, since he's still sitting on a mountain of Abbey National options, which some say is now worth north of £6m.

Mr Birch replaces David Snedden, who is retiring after 15 years with Trinity and four years as chairman. Mr Snedden said recently that "the temptation to spend more time with my family, consultancy and fishing rod, although not necessarily in that order, is irresistible."

Jubiccel Bus SIR Brian Jenkins, former Lord Mayor of London and ex head of audit at Coopers & Lybrand, was in rollicking form as head of the judging panel at yesterday's prize presentation for this year's Charity Annual Report and Accounts Awards.

Trevor McDonald, the popular ITN newscaster, was the guest of honour at the awards, held at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the City. The ICA and the Charity Forum co-sponsor the awards.

Sir Brian kicked off the proceedings by telling the assembled audience that "judges get older and accounts get better." He slightly blunted this claim by adding that fully 50 per cent of entrants to the competition had failed at the first hurdle simply because the applicants had failed to either date or sign their entry. Confusion then reigned as the winners were

presented with their prizes of £2,000 each, Sir Brian not realising that the winners were supposed to contribute a few words of their own to the proceedings. When this was pointed out to him, the first prizewinners were invited back on stage to say their piece. Mr McDonald, exhibiting his true professionalism, remained unfazed by the ensuing scenes of chaos.

As the last winners were ushered from the stage, Sir Brian declared:"I think that just about wraps it up. I've had rather an accidentprone afternoon. Is there anything else I

To which the president of the ICA, Chris Laine, exclaimed: "I think now you should sit down." Which, to Sir Brian's credit, he did.

MICHAEL JACKSON, deputy chairman of Sage, the designer of accounting software, and founding chairman of Elderstreet Downing VCT a venture capital trust, is a keen tennis player, he tells me.

Mr Jackson set up Elderstreet eight years ago, and its directors now include Luke Johnson, the founder of Pizza Express.

Anyway, Mr Jackson tells me excitedly that he once beat Tim Henman, Britain's great tennis hope. The entrepreneur's victory came at the Rye Tennis Championships in Sussex in 1986. At the time Mr Jackson was 36 and Tim Henman was just 11. Mr Jackson beat the future tennis star 6-4 after a disputed line call. Mr Jackson recalls: "Tim was so small that people looked at me as if I was a child beater."

IT IS appropriate in the week of the Cheltenham Festival that University Diagnostics is launching a DNA database service for horses. University Diagnostics is a division of LGC (until 18 months ago The Laboratory of the Government Chemist). It is offering a service which will enable you to trace your horse if it gets stolen.

The company already has a world beater -a service which sexes parrots. It works in the same way as the horse DNA operation, and is currently helping scores of European zoos in their breeding programmes.

The company tells me that parrots don't have any external reproductive organs, and you can kill them by "prodding around", so now they take DNA samples from the feathers. The tests cost a mere £22.50 a shot.

# Courtaulds **Textiles** beats profit forecasts

COURTAULDS Textiles, the clothing and fabric company. vesterday set itself a target of beating its historic profits peak of £46m in the coming year. Colin Dyer, the chief executive said: "We aim to beat our historic profit peak, which was around £46m, this year."

His comment came as the company posted a 28 per cent increase in profits before tax and exceptional items of £41.2m in the year to 31 December. The 1997 result exceeded most brokers' forecasts which centered on £40m.

Mr Dver said: "The French economy is beginning to wake up a bit. Consumer demand is a little stronger there. French On show: Colin Dyer, chief executive with models wearing Courtaulds Textiles' latest range Photograph: Daniel Newman market demand for the group's hosiery remained weak in 1997, autumn selling season, he said.

"We are also seeing a steadying of the trading environment makes up just 5 per cent of group

better margins," said Mr Dyer. The Asia-Pacific region

particularly during the peak and we are beginning to see the group's turnover came from by buoyant demand in the sales to Marks & Spencer. The company's lace and

sales, which increased by £6m to ered strongly in 1997 to post in pre-exceptional profit to to have calmed. Our order £932.3m at constant exchange pre-exceptional profits of £11.4m in 1997. Its casualwear ending December 1999. books did not suffer too badly rates in 1997. About £310m of £19.2m, up from £12.9m, helped and underwear division lifted

United States and Europe. The group's lingerie and

stretch fabrics division recov- hosiery division saw a slight fall

pre-exceptional profit to £14.0m in 1997 from £11.6m in 1996. The company set a return on average capital employed target of 17 per cent to be achieved in the year

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حكامن الاعل

# A bitter Business for poor Nicholls

By Greg Wood at Cheltenham

BEFORE the Gold Cup, Paul Nicholls told an interviewer that in his dreams he had imagined every possible way that the race might unfold for his runner, See More Business, from an easy victory to a fall at the first. It seems unlikely, however, that the list included the chaser's eventual fate - carried out at the 12th, when Cyborgo broke down and dragged both See More Business and Indian Tracker past the wrong side of the fence.

Indian Tracker, a stablemate of Cyborgo at Martin Pipe's Wellington yard, was among the outsiders, but See More Business set off as the second favourite, and the most obvious standard bearer of the British

challenge to Dorans Pride. The stewards inquired into the incident, and decided that Cyborgo lost his action as the result of a pelvic injury, giving Tony McCoy, his jockey, no option but to pull out of the race. The officials took no further action.

CHELTENHAM

2.00: 1. UPGRADE (C Liewellyn) 14-1; 2. ly Hall 12-1; 3. Nomadic 14-1; 4. Ze-

2.35: 1. PRINCEFUL (R Farrant) 16-1; 2.

Results

while Cyborgo was taken to the for them. Salvation appeared to travel back to Pipe's yard.

The injury to Cyborgo was a but McCoy more than made it up to the punters later in the afternoon. A treble in the last three races of the meeting was completed by victory for Blow-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Kustom Kit Kate (Southwell 2.10) NB: Mersey Beat (Folkestone 3.00)

ing Wind, the hot favourite, in the County Hurdle.

The success earned his connections a £50,000 bonus offered by the sponsors of last Saturday's Imperial Cup to any horse which could win their race and an event at the Festival. Out in the ring, however, the cost was much sults for the bookmakers, they had laid Blowing Wind at all rates down to 15-8, knowing that the other 27 entries were running

racecourse hospital for exami- be at hand when Bless Me Sisnation. It was unclear last night ter strode to the front on the turn whether he was fit enough to for home, but Blowing Wind came late to snatch victory and as dusk fell over Cheltenham, bitter blow for all concerned. long lines of backers were still queueing to be paid.

Another successful punter was Matt Archer, the joint-owner of Upgrade, who started backing his runner for the Triumph Hurdie several weeks agn with a £500 each-way bet at 33-1, added to his stake as the race approached. When Upgrade charged up the hill to repel the persistent challenge of City Hall in yesterday's opening race, Archer collected an estimated £150,000 from his betting alone.

This was a brave performance by Upgrade, who was at the head of affairs throughout but still had enough in reserve to stay on dourly in the closing stages. If his effort has not drained him too severely, he will greater. After a series of bad re-run in the Glenlivet Hurdle at Aintree next month, with the 1999 Champion Hurdle the long-term target. If Archer wants to play up his winnings,



Andrew Thornton passes all the glory on to his Gold Cup-winning mount, Cool Dawn, yesterday Photograph: Peter Jay

Ladbrokes offer 25-1 for next

year's championship. There were visions of future Festivals too after the Stayers' Hurdle, won by Jenny Pitman's Princeful. "He will be chasing next season," the trainer said. "and we may take in the Royal & SunAlliance Chase before winning the Millennium Gold

McCoy's treble in the final three races - the first two legs were Edredon Bleu in the Grand Annual Chase and Cyfor Malta in the Cathcart - ensured that he finished the meeting as the leading rider, with five winners, three more than any of his rivals could manage. For Adrian Maguire, however, the week

Maguire sustained a broken collarbone as well as knee and head injuries, and was taken to Cheltenham General Hospi-

way. Riding at the Festival for ble, but would be detained the first time in four years, he overnight, and possibly longer. had drawn a blank before the It was a bad day for Magnire all Grand Annual, in which he round as his old friend Barton took a heavy fall from Zahadi. Bank was retired after finishing eighth in the Gold Cup.

 The Tote recorded a new record turnover of £7,296,310 for the three days of the Cheltal. A spokeswoman said that tenham Festival, an increase of Magnire was conscious and sta- £445,195 on last year's total.

# Golden day for racing's fall guy



KEN IONES

IT isn't that long ago since the word on Andrew Thornton was that he would struggle to stay on board if they glued him to the saddle.

Thornton came off so often - seven times consecutively during one dark period - that he was advised to seek alternative employment. Kim Bailey, the trainer Thornton joined after riding successfully in the north for Arthur Stephenson. more or less fired him.

Thornton's girlfriend, Jill Richardson, shared as much in the anguish of a career that was going nowhere as she did in the joy of his Gold Cup victory yesterday on the 25-1 shot Cool Dawn. A resolute redhead, who spoke while receiving calls of congratulation on her mobile telephone, she set out the hard times to put Thornton's achievement into proper perspective.

"Watching Andrew ride a couple of years ago it wasn't a case of would he fall but when. Soon he had no confidence at all. It was sad because he was riding horses that had no chance of winning or show his ability." Probably, the thought in Thornton's mind then was that he had made a wrong career move.

A rugby footballer of such promise at Barnard Castle, the public school that turned out Rob Andrew and the Underwood brothers, Thornton had the potential to follow them into England's colours. Instead, he chose the rough and tumble of an even harder game and the pain that goes with it.

The painful period with Bailey was a test of his resolution. In once season alone Thornton suffered seven fractures of the collar bone. "He just wouldn't give up," his girlfriend said. "Kim Bailey made it pretty clear that he didn't think Andrew had much of a future but he asked to stay on in the yard." Things took an upward turn for Thornton when he rode a double in Scotland. There was a technical change, too.

The tallest jockey in the weighing room at Cheltenham yesterday, Thornton was advised to lengthen his stirrups. In reply to one of the many calls she received in the unsaddling closure, Jill Richardson said: "Yes, the advice paid off."

Riding longer made such a difference to Thornton's balance that his career was transformed. He struck back with 26 winners and won the King George VI Chase at Kempton last Boxing Day on See More Business for Paul Nicholls.

1. . .

On Wednesday came Thornton's second Festival winner when he brought French Holly home in the Royal and SunAlliance Chase. At a party to celebrate French Holly's victory Thornton passed on the champagne. "You carry on," he said to friends, "but I've got a big day

tomorrow." Going off at a price long enough to show that not a great deal was expected of it, Cool Dawn would make a mess of general predictions. When they went down to the start on a day of warm sunshine most eyes were on Dorans Pride who was well backed to bring Ireland another victory.

As emphasised by a flood of money for Florida Pearl on Wednesday, short prices don't deter the Irish if they can smell a winner and there was plenty riding on Dorans Pride when the field set out in the Gold Cup. The sight of Indian Tracker and See More Business being taken out of the race by the suddenly lame Cyborgo strengthened confidence in Dorans Pride but a mistake three out did for Ireland's principle challenge.

No Irish celebrations this time, no repeat of the wild excitement that greeted Charlie Swan when he returned to the unsaddling enclosure with Istabraq on Tuesday.

It made no difference to Thornton. Yet he had stayed in the game, ridden out the bad days and nobody could take this one away from him.

2.00 Totally Yours 2.30 Secret Bid

3.00 Veridian 3.30 Peace Lord

City Hall 12-1; 3. Normadic 14-1; 4. 2a-larabad 100-30 fav 25 ran, 1½, 1½, (N Twiston-Davies, Cheltanham). Tote: £16.30; £3.00, £2.70. £2.00 £1.70. Dual Foresast £7350 Computer Straigh; Foresast £286.26 Trics £338.70 Non Purmer: GOING: Good

Splendid Thyre 10-1; 3. Ocean Hawk 5-1. 9 ran. 6-4 fav Paddy's Return (5th). 2, 4. (Mrs. J. Pitman, Upper Lambourn). Tota: 52750; 6420, 5250, 5190, DF: 59950, CSF: \$145.54 Trio: \$21470 3.15: 1. COOL DAWN (A Thornton) 25-

3.15: 1. COOL DAWN (A Thorston) 25-1:2. Strong Promise 14-1; 3. Dorsen Pride 9-4 tav. 17 ran. 11/s, hd. (R Aher, Blandford Forum Tote: \$340; Bis30, \$390, \$190 DF: 2200,70 CSF: 227583 Fro; £2990, DS 3.55: 1. EARTHIMOVER (Nr J Tizzard) 3-1; 2. Stay Ini Touch 10-1; 3. Flashing Steed 3-1 11 ran. 5-4 lav Begant Lord (5th. 18, 5. (R Barbor, Bearinister), Tote: \$390; £160, 2000, 2364 DE: Cappo CSF: PSee Times

5. (R Barber, Beaminster). Toter: £390; £160, £200, £350 DF: £2290 CSF: £2656. Trio: £1460.

4.30: 1. EDREDON BLEU (A P McCoy) 7-2 tar; 2. Tidebrook 9-2; 3. Cumbrian Challenge: £9: 4. Morestock 33-1 17 ran. 31/s. 21/s. (Mess H Kright, Wantage). Toter: £380; £170; £170; £340, £300, DF: £530 CSF: £829. Trio: £170; £340, £300, DF: £530, NFs; Down The Felt, Ughtening Lad.

5.05: 1. CYPOR MALITA (A P McCoy) 8-4 far; 2. Dr Leumt 15-2; 3. Maliher 25-1, 8 ran. 31/s. 2. (M. Pipe, Weißington). Tote: £330; £160; £180, £410. DF: £1800. CSF-£395; Tiro: £3300, Muligan (4-1) withdrawn

23.30; £160, £180, £410, DF; £1580, CSF; £13.55. This: £13000, Mulligan (4-1) withdrawn not under orders; Rule 4 applaes to board prices only, deduction 20p in the £ 5.40; 1. BLOWING WIND (A P McCoy) 15-8 lay; 2. Advocat £1; 3. Bless Me Sis-ter 33-1; 4. Barna Boy 14-1; 27 ron. 1½, 2½, (M. Pipe, Welfington), Totas: £2.80; £170, £20p, £100,

1280, 1990, EA10, DF: 11840, CSF, 123.78

1280, 1990 NAID DE: PBAU CSF. 12270. Troast: 65211. Tro: £75280. Non Runner: Supertop. Jackpot: not won (pool of £94,350,21 car-ned forward to Fakerham today. Placepot: £34990. Quadpot: £30,00. Place 6: £248,21. Place 5: £45,47.

HEXHAM 2.25: 1. PUREVALUE (E Calaghan) 15-8 jt fav; 2. Centaur Express 2-1; 3. Patter Merchant 33-1 7 ran. 5-8 jt lav Ham NEgoti, 18, 6 MW Easterby), Tota: C220; C330, C10, DF: S220, CSF: C560, Non Runner: Em-

peror's Mago. 3.00; 1. I'M THE MAN (M Gault) 14-1; 2. 3.00: 1. FM THE MAN (M GRUT) 14-1; 2. Fern Leader Tt-2; 3. Danbys Gorse 13-2. 12 rsn. 3-1 tav Sniper (ur) 2". 2. (Mrs E Slack), Tota: C21:20: £450, £220, £240, DF: £6580. CSF: £8401. Trocast: £55:07. Trio: £26580. NR: Allerbank 3.35: 1. STORM CALL (Lardine) 11-4 fav.

2. Drumdonns 3-2, 3. Madge McSplash 16-1 13 ran. 7, 1 (D Whilans). Tota: £2.10; £210, £10, £3.70 DF: £730, CSF: £15.16. Trest £15906. The: £3710. 4,15: 1. SPIRIT OF STEEL (J Callachan)

4.15: 1. SPIRIT OF STEEL (J Calaghan)
4.1; 2. Hirt Lodge 40-1; 3. Dufase Bay 7-2
[r fax, 17 ran, 7-2 jr tax Redsway (pu) 27,
15. [T Tate]. Totes: £580; £2.10, £0780, £2.40.
DF: £789.70. CSF: £160.48. Tro: £219.40.
4.50: 1. SIRERIC (K Jornson) 11-4 fax,
2. Kibby Bank 5-1; 3. Stever Stick 9-2. 7
ran, 28, 10; SBe9). Tote: £380; £160, £250.
DF: £920. CSF: £15.40.
5.20: 1. MENSHARR (W Dowing) 11-4 fax,
2. Vilorano 11-2. 3. Kithochside Lad 5-1. 10.

2. Vilprano 11-2.3. Kittochside Lad 5-1.10 ran. 3.4 (L. Lurgo) Rote: 5320; 5220, 5250, 5280, DF: C7860, CSF: £1933, Treast: 57136, Troc. \$5650 Placepot: £8240. Quadpot: £1470. Place 6: £5011 Place 5: £29.86

LINGFIELD 1.50: 1. ..OMAN REEL (Mrs.) Moore) 7-2 p tav; 2. Anchor Venture 10-1: 3. Statis-tician 6-1 12 ran. 7-2 p tav Mogin 2, 7-2 0. Moore) Trior (Sol): 2-20, E100, E70. OF: P4770 CSF: S3897 Tricast: £98973 Trio: not 247.0 CSF: 23897 Treast: 29873. Tho: not won (12444 to Fekentham 450 today).
2.20: 1. Ki CHI SAGA (Mrs J Moore) 71; 2. Hawall Storm 16-1; 3. Kaffi 14-1 12 ran. 7-2. Ji lav Mustang. 24. ½. (6 L Moore).
CSF: 179.0; 1380, 1270, 1400. DF: £4190. CSF: £78.75. Thoast: £446.12. Trio: £24460. 2.55: 1. JUST LOUI (D Sweepery) 7-4 lav. 2. Stoppes Brow 8-1; 3. Meilors 8-1 14 ran. ½. 2½. (h. Burke). Toto: £250; £250. £280. DF: £990. CSF: £1873. Trio: £2180. NF: Brite Hope.

NR: Ohe Hope. 3.25:1. KRYSTAL MAX (Korberley Hart) 5-8 lav. 2. Robo Megic 13-2: 3. Rise 'n Shine 4-1. 8 ran. sht-hd. //. (T D Barron) Tote: \$200: \$140, \$200, \$180, DF. \$1000. Total 2007 Fix Edut 2449 4.05: 1. ROCKY WATERS (P McCabe) 9-1; 2. Whater Raider 6-1; 3. Eastern Prophete 5-1, 14 ran, 2-1 by Palacegore Touch 17. nic (M Usher, Total 2490: 2380, 5630, 2150, DF: 28560, CSF: \$13385, Tho:

4.40: 1. QUIET ARCH (Martin Dwyer) 9 4; 2. Amadour 7-2; 3. Mystic Quest 4-1.5 ran. 2-1 tay Arbo Courier (4th). 1%, 1%, 1%, Must. Tota: £220; £10; £360 DF: £530 CSF:

5.15: 1. DIGPAST (G Bardwell) 16-1; 2. 5. (3: 1. breshes) (6 Bardwell) 15-1; 2. Threadneedle 8-1; 3. Herr Trigger 9-4 9 ran, 15-8 kw Northern Blessing, 6h-hd, 4. (J Bridger) Tote: C16-40; £3-30, £4-30, £1-40 DF: £37-30, GSF; £16715, Threads £37-358, Thos

17820. Piscepot: \$1348.10. Quadpot; \$1050. Piace 5, \$388.70. Piace 5; \$162.99.

INDEPËN		
RACING SI		CES
<u>0891_2</u>	<u>61</u>	+
LIVE COMMENTA		1
FOLKESTONE	971	981
FAKENHAM	972	982
SOUTHWELL	973	983
0891 26	1 970	<b>o_</b> _
<u> </u>	A Committee to	

### Folkestone

4.00 Salaman (nb) 4.30 CALLEVA STAR (nap) 5.00 Our Dawny

GOING: GOOD.

Right-hand, undulating course with a run-in of one furlong.

Course is 6m west of fown off A20, Westermanger station (service from London, Charling Cross) actions course. ADMISSION: £10 (under-16e tree). CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: J Gifford 7 winners from 75 races (22.7%), D Grissell 12-70 (177%), N Henderson 8-26 (20.8%), R Alner 7-37 (18.9%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dumwoody 11-58 (19%), M A Ritzgerald 10-50 (20%), N Williamson 8-51 (17.9%). P Mide 8-51 (15.7%).

BANCHIRITES: 108 wins in 2-88 races (41.1%). FAYOURITES: 108 wins in 258 races (#11%).
 BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Mystic lale (230), Executive Officer (300), Jojo (430).

SANDGATE MARES CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) \$2,400 added 2m 1f 110yds Penaity Value £1,858 ....C Webb (3) V .....P Heatry (3) ......B Featon B

FORMITGUIDE.
TOTALLY YOURS, a maiden on the flag, has been shrewdly placed to win five times over timber. Martin Pipels mare would have more to do in a handcap and she should carry on a rowingth con the series of t the others with Norman Yelliamson is good southing research to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and could do no better than a seven-length fourth to Urban Lify in a Plump-ber of 1996 and the Indian Life in the Ind

2.30 WHITELAW GOLD CUP NOVICES CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 2f Penalty Value £3,644

## finished in the worst possible 3.00 SOMERFIELD COURT NOVICES HURDLE (CLASS E) \$2,900 added 2m 1f 110yds Penalty Value \$2,630

CORDIAL KIBGHT (18) LIP M 8 J W Cook) C Morlock 5 11 2 T Mortimer (7)
EBECUTIVE OFFICIER (F77) (B C late) R Flower 5 11 2 P Hide B
FORKT MORK (46) (Mr D M Hidding R Flower 5 11 2 N Williamson
F GBLYTS CROSS (14) (Nck Ellot) R Bucker 6 11 2 N Williamson
F GBLYTS CROSS (14) (Nck Ellot) R Bucker 6 11 2 N Dissessory
MAYGAM (F1008) Paul Townsteyl Mrs A Perett 6 11 2 N P Dissessory
MAYGAM (F1008) Paul Townsteyl Mrs A P Townstey 5 11 2 N P Dissessory
MAYGAM (F1008) Paul Townsteyl Mrs A Woodrow 6 11 2 N P Dissessory
MAYGAM (F1008) Paul Townsteyl Mrs A Woodrow 6 11 2 N P Dissessory
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MAYGAM (F1008) Paul Townsteyl Mrs A Woodrow 6 11 2 N P Tibley
MAYGAM (F1008) P Dissessory
May Townsteyl Mrs A Mr

BETTING: 4-11 Veridice, 11-2 Mersey Best, 7-1 Purple Ace, 12-1 Kademann, 18-1 Gilly's Cross, Multi Franchise, 33-1 others 1997: Sherpice 5 11 9 M A Pizgerald 1-12 tox (N Henderson) 6 ran

1997: Sharpicel 5 7i 9 Mi A Pitzgerald 1-12 twi (N Henderson) 8 ran FFORM GUIDE

VERUDIAN, who went on the Flat at Doncaster and Chester in 1897 for Peter Herris's stable, looks poised to open his hurding account. Nick Henderson's five-year-old fell at the fourth when market leader on his jumping bow at Doncaster in December, tollowing with a fourth to Zaralaska at Newbury and eight-length second to Petite Risk at Plumpton. Petite Risk didn't let the form down when second to Another Night in a handicap at Chepstow on Saturday - conceding the wirner 19th. Trying to find a danger is difficult and parhaps Plumpia Acat will be the one to hollow the two-units from a the weakened quickly in the closing stages when fourth to Lord York at Doncaster a formight ago and looks certain to step up on that, his first outing since November.

Selection: VERDIAN

3.30 CLIFTONVILLE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m Penalty Value £3,527 

1997: The Carrol Man 9 10 9 P Hide 7-4 lav (P Winkworth) 4 ran DEAR DO has his faults but has been running will and can come out on top returning to the scene of his first victory three years ago. Dear Do gained his first win in nearly two years when beating High Learle is length at Fontwell six weeks ago and, on 3b worse terms, should spain hold Court Master, who was a five-length fourth. Dear Do went on to chase home Flay Germes under 1st 10b at Lalcester and is a pound lower today. The selection finished more than two langths behind Coolteen Hero when they were second and third behind Nastrelle Star at Windsor in December but he can turn that around on 7b more favourable terms. Coolteen Hero was beaten only a neck in the Windsor contest and won his first two recest this season, at Eveler and Bangor, but he was an early casualty at Chapstow over Christmas and 23 lengths of the winner in third to Tidebrook at Newbury last time. Thumbs Up might well provide most danger, learing returned to winning form at Hurstingdon two weeks ago.

Selection: DEAR DO

4.00 PEASMARSH HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,900 added 2m 6f 110yds Penalty Value £2,245

5 doctared BETTING: 7-4 Posh Spice, 9-4 Salamen, 11-4 Ever Smile, 7-1 Cheeky Charle, 20-1 Wishing, 1997: No corresponding race

FORM GUIDE

Atthough she was 4th wrong in the wigidits, POSH SPICE struck form with a vangeance when a dezen lengths too good for Heart at Plumpton (2m 4f), where Marylo, a previous and subsequent scores, was third. Nick Henderson's mare is likely to progress further and she can supplement recent gains off a 6th higher mark at time, over course and distance hold no tencer to her. Settemen also got off the mark lest time, over course and distance, but Posh Spice might have most to tear from Ever Smile. Martin Pipels charge, in with every chance only to that at the first flight in Passings' race at Ascot lest morth, didn't appear to stay the extended three miles and three when unplaced at Sedgefield but took the minor placing against. The Prome over just short of today's trip at Sandown a week ago. Cheeley Charfle won over course and distance in December but was pulled up in this next two races and findings only 12th of 13 behind Salaman here. FORM GUIDE

A 20 NUMBER ENGAGED HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F)

_	.30	£3,250 added 3m 2f Penalty Value £2,579
ī	47/21-	SOME DAY SOON (516) (D) (Astalio & Partners Ltd) M Bradstock 13 12 0 A P MicCoy
2	P414/0	MY WIZARD (32) (Mrs Angels Brodle) N Gesslee 11 to 10
,	-832¢t	CALLEYA STAR (18) (D) (James Burley) R Alber 7 11 9
1	5375	JOJO (45) (John Grist) D Grissel 8 ti 0
,	4523U1	WORKSHOPPEANUTS (10) (Mrs D A Smith) C Smith 6 10 10 (7ed
•	4459	PAYLOVA (67) (Castern Estates Ltd. R Rose 8 107
7	0-083F	SLEETMORE GALE (22) (D () Walst) T McGovern 8 107
3	3-1244	MARKET GOSSEP (14) (D) (FI J Tory) R Alner 8 10 5
•		CHARLE HAWES (5) (Siver Knight Exhibitions Ltd) S Melot 9 10 5 C Webb (3)
0	25-23P	RENOMAN FUN (10) (Martyes To Recing Pertnership) R Buckler 9 to 0
		10 declared

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Rhome Fur St 10th. BETTRIG: 5-2 Workingforpeanute; 7-2 Callers Stat. 8-1 Market Goes 8-1 Steatmers Cale, 10-1 Some Day Soom, 20-1 others. 1997: Royal Sexon 11 To 8 R Johnson 5-1 (P Bowen) 10 nan FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Workingtorpeasate is the pick of the weights, because even he goes off a mark 7th lower than when winning from a stone out of the handicap proper at Easter 10 days alpo. Before that, he was making ground only to be hampered and urasest at the 18th in Now We Know's race at Bangor. However, there was plently of give underfoot at Easter and Workingtorpeanuts might find CALLEVA STAR too good on this different going. Calleva Star had run well in most of his races before gaining his first success in defeating Amszon Lily at Plumpton 18 days ago. Mantest Gossilp, a stablemete of Calleva Star, was a winning point-to-pointer and was successful at Hereford in December, following with a Market Research behind Bassenhally. He is 10th batter off with Worldingtorpeanuts then when three and a half lengths behind him in Mountain Path's Windsor race but finished tailed off at Newbury last time.

w	The second secon
	H) £1,500 added 2m If 110yds Penalty Value £1,308
2	JURIGILI (128) (Mrs P Starley) P R Webber 5 to 8
0	MESTER-8 (27) (Peter Borner) T D Mocerthy 5 11 8Mir T McCardity
	RISING TROUT (37) (Nick Electi) R Buckler 5 11 8 B Powell
	THISTLEGCKER (49) (Thistockers) M Bracktock 5 tt 8
	BLACK SECRET (1' Hubbard & Mr L A Heart) C Eperton 5 tl 3 M Williamson
60	MRREHS GLOW (265) (H V Perry) R Alost 6 11 3 N Williamston (7)
	OUR DAWNY (Mrs J M F Dibbert) Mins Y Williams 5 tl S
	CACCINI (Airs Mauros Bosley) C Mortock 4 11 0
	KINGLEY VALE (B Seet) Mrs L Alcherds 4 11 0
a	MOONSHINE BAY (30) Dies Timothy Pikington) J Gifford 4 11 0
•	PHAL (Gen Antil) T Mile 4 ft 0
	SER VALENTINE (Capit A Pratt) R Rowe 4 11 0
	TWENTY BUCKS (W E Beird) M Madgeick 4 11 0
	BUNEPSE A DAISY (Mrs V Costello) D O'Brien 4 10 9C Liencelly 10
	44 desired

- 14 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Jungil, 3-1 Riving Trout, 7-1 Our Dawny, 8-1 Black Secret, 10-1 Moonshine Bay, 12-1 Sir Valentine, 20-1 Plai, 25-1 others 1 Str Valentine, 20-1 Phail, 25-1 others 1997: Sunday Venture 5 11 8 M A Pitzgerald 15-8 fav (N Henderson) 16 ran FORM GUIDE

JUNGLI, beaten five lengths by Conchobor on his introduction at Worcester in No ber, can go on one better despite the 128-day lay-off. Charle Egerton's Black Secret, a daughter of the dual Accot Gold Cup winter Gildoran, and Richard Rowe's St Valentine, a son of Be My Native, may do best of the debutants.

### Fakenham

**HYPERION** 2.20 Springfield Rhyme 2.50 Stoney Valley 3.20 Wise Advice 3.50 Misty Cay 4.20 Broadwater Boy 4.50 Fire On Ice

GOING: Good.

Left-hand course with 200yds run-in.

Course a south of town off B1145. ADMISSION: Members £12;
Grandstand & Paddock £5. Accompanied under-5a free all enclosures. CAR PARIS: E7, remainder thee.

LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs D Haine 6 winners from 25 runniers (22%). J Jenidins 7-39 (179%). G Prodromou 5-16 (313%), K Belley 4-25 (10%).

© LEADING JOCKEYS: Mr R Waldey 4 winners from 28 ricks (14.3%).

Mr W Wales 3-5 (50%), A Maguire 3-11 (27.3%), Michael Brennen

3·대 (2:3·학) ② FAVOURITES: 77 wins from 207 races (372%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Sweet Little Brigs (2:20: viscred): Mycec-2.20 CAR CENTRE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) \$3,500 added 2m

7 -U5081 SPRINGFIELD RHYNKE (17) (D) S Gallings 7 10 8..... 8 P03-PS EMERALD VENTURE (83) (D) F Colon 11 10 7 ... Mir C Rae 9 PP666 LOFTY DEED (16) (D) Mrs C Hois 8 10 5 ... R Belliamy 8 10 00/U00 TWISP (15) M R Bosley 7 10 4 ... 1 Liamence 11 OP54P MODEST HOPE (P11) Mrs S Lamyman 11 10 2 ...

BETTING: 2-1 Springfield Rityme, 5-1 Tip Your Weitress, 13-2 Iminit, 8-1 Sweet Little Brier, Wansteed, 10-1 Lofty Deed, 12-1 Emerald Venture. 2.50 W BULWER-LONG MEMORIAL

NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £3,500 added 2m 5f 110yds 

3.20 GRAHAM BUILDING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 26,500 added 2m 5f 110yds 1 - 1124 MANOR MEO (82) (CO) G Prodromou 2 11 11 .... | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 | 1905 |

3.50 EDP HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £5,500 added 2m Penalty Value £3,625 1 (1910 CLASSIC EAGLE (14) (CD) Mrs D Haine 5 12 0 ..... G Bradley 

- 6 declared - 6 d

2	2 <del>111/</del> F	FEICH D) Mrs L Teylor 9 17 5
3	2050/0	GREY DANCER (31) Mrs H Walter 10 11 5
4	-82564	SWAN STREET (17) EL James 7 11 5R Johnson
5	OP-OPO	TOOD (31) AH Harvey 7 17 5 R Thorston
-		-5 declared -
В	TTING:	5-6 Broadwater Boy, 6-4 Segn Street, 10-1 Feich, 20-1 Grey
	IIICHE 25	
	,	
_		T EDD CONDITIONAL LOCKEDON MAIDEN
ľ	4.50	EDE COUDITIONAL JOCKE 19 MAIDEN
L		EDP CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m
1		BUFFALO RIVER (5) K Morgan 8 tl 8
ż	0095	DESIGNER LINES (25) E L James 5 tl 8
3	-1337P	DOUBLE STAR (79) J L Herris 7 ft 8T Descombe
4	6303.	FIRE ON ICE (354) Mrs O Haine 6 ti 8
Š	20E0.	GLIDE PATH (F17) J Justine 9 11 8
ě	M	MISSED CALL (49) M Templers 6 11 8 S Light (4)
7	m.	MZAAL (498) M Hammond 7 11 8

4.20 EDP MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m 110yds

(Z34P4 BROADWATER BOY (20) M Herrmond 10 11 5 ......... If Gernby

tie, Tangshan, 14-1 Nizzei, 16-1 Deelgeer Lines, Gilde Peils, Miss 25-1 others

### Southwell

HYPERION 2.10 Hever Golf Passion 2.40 Bentico 3.10 Russ-lan Romeo 3.40 Alimaites 4.10 Bunnies Own 4.40 Nakhal

GOING: Standard, STALLS: All races inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Middle to high up to tim.

Fibresand surface: left-hand sharp, oval course.

Course is 5m west of Newerk. Rolleston Jurician adjoins course.

ADMISSION: Cub Etz. Tattersals Et & (OAP members of courses Dramond Cub Et, accompanied under-tis free). CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: M. Johnston 46-222 (2008-5), S Bowring 44-366 (12-4), J. E. Eyre 37-200 (142-3), R Hollemsheed 38-384 (54-4).

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Quinn 34-463 (7-4), D Hollend 27-35 (20%).

Dean McKeown 27-379 (85%), A Cultima 23-231 (10%).

FAVOURTES: S31 wires from 1534 races (346%). ● FAVOURITES: S31 whs from 1534 races (345%) BLINKERED FIRST TIME; Al'e Folia (240), Double Appeal (410), Healthyards Shelik (visored, 410).

2.10 NEPTUNE MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 7f

o weight: 7st 10th, True handicap weights: Peum Sabaum 7st 8th.

- 12 declared -BETTING: 7-2 Cooksem Ludy, 9-2 Secrey Valley, 5-1 Foxbox, Gabig, 11-2 The Point in, 10-1 Chiappucci, 12-1 Singh Song, 14-1 others SETTING: 11-4 Hover Got Pession, 7-2 Koston Kit Kets, 5-1 Stades of Love 6-1 Misconduct, 8-1 Roches, 10-1 Barltons, Shifting Time, 16-1 others

2.40 HERA CLAIMING LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m -3452 LANCASHIRE LEGEND (34) (BF) J.A. Hards 5.9.2... | Dept. | Dept

- 12 Decembe -BETTING: 9-4 Bestico, 6-1 Pine Ridge Led, Affa Felle, 13-2 Mentrit Grun-ble, 7-1 Lancashire Legand, 10-1 Walldid Besch, Figerrit, 16-1 others

3.10 ACHILLES HANDICAP (CLASS D) 57,000 added 3YO 6f | added 3YO 61 | (37) M Haston-Eis 9.7 | S Drowns 1 | (394 | HARD COUSIN (137) M Haston-Eis 9.7 | S Drowns 1 | (394 | HARD COUSIN (137) M Haston-Eis 9.7 | O Pass 3 | 256-1 | EURO VENTURE (85) (0) O Nichols 9.3 | Alex Growns 4 | 2505 | EUROPELL LANE (137) (0) A Javis 9.1 | D Sewanty (8) 11 | MAGIC RAINBOW (251) (8F) M Bell 9.1 | M Fention 2 | 10300 | ROYAL DREAM (198) (0.1) | Berry 8.1 | P Faster (3.9 | So-40 | YOUNG (88R) (2.9) P Earts 8.3 | P Faster (3.9 | Faster (3.9 | Earts 8.3 | P Faster (3.9 | Earts 9.3 | Earts

1032- PIGEON (217) (D) (BF) D Baster 5.3 \_\_\_\_\_\_T Williams 10 32045- LAKELAND PRIDE (197) D Hicholls 6.1 \_\_\_ A McCarthy (8) 6 (197) D Richolle 8 1 — A BioCarthy (5) 8 — 13 declared — 13 declared — BETTING: 9-2 Medium's Billings, 6-1 Elizo Venture, 7-1 Fm Rd, Pigeon, 8-1 Third Cousin, Russian Romeo, 10-1 Branston Berry, Blundell Lane, Erro Codigo, 12-1 others

3.40 APOLLO AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3YO 6f 5003-3 ALLMAITES (30) D Nicholis 9 0......Alex Gr 

-11 declared -SETTING: 11-10 Stitum Delitance, 5-1 Almeites, 13-2 Ottic's Checkée, 8-1 Ledy From Limerick, 12-1 Cue Man, Jomerou, 14-1 Fixel Claim, 18-1 4.10 APHRODITE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 3YO 71

-3420 HEATHYARDS SHEK (16) (CD) (BF) R Holleshed 8 4.

1822 SHARP MONRCEY (11) (C) Min N Macsaley 8 4.

P McCabe (2) 13 V 54621 SILMANES O'RN (21) (CD) J.I. Henris 8 (3 ... R Winston (5) 8 65-00 GOOD FOR YOU (16) D MoTient 8 (2 ... ... J Outen 2 B 4-6380 HOUSE ON FREE (16) J Barry 8 (2 ... ... C Lowdon (5) 12 B 900-25 SHARP STEEL (34) G L Moore 8 (2 ... ... Kim Tinther 14

BETTING: 4-1 Heathyards Shalt, 5-1 Bursies Own, 13-2 Sharp Monkey, 8-1 Always Lucky, 16-1 House On Fire, Striety Ferrous, 12-1 Top Floor, Crief Girl, Spring Beacos, 14-1 others

4.40 ZEUS APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m 4f 5445- PARADISE NAVY (126) (BF) C Egerton 9 9 10 ...

US030- REAR WINDOW (163) G McCoort 4 9 8 . R Studiolone (3) 5 0506-3 ARZANI (USA) (24) D Coggree 7 9 7 . . . . . Wildinson (3) 4 4-0(2) MANGHAL (8) (C) D Muzay Smith 5 9 4 (0e) -ODM CAROL AGAIN (S) (CD) N Bycoli 6 9 3 (but) P M Culins (S) 7 6400- (CENAMATTYPA GERL (1220) (CD) J Parises 8 8 2. — 14 declared — Minimum weight: 7st 10th. Thus harmings by 3 —14 declared — Minimum weight: 7st 10th. Thus harmings weights: Ballyttissunger 7st 3b. BETTHING b-2 Makhal, 5-7 Paradise Nerg, Aldreych Arrow, 6-1 Carol Agein, 13-2 Klamana Bridge, 7-1 Arzaini, 13-1 Reser Wordow, Aradisi, 14-1 others

# Veteran Burnell bundled into Scots' front row

Rugby Union

By Chris Hewett

WHEN Paul Burneil hopped aboard the first available flight from London to Edinburgh yesterday, he found himself so comprehensively outnumbered by 22 England players with Calcutta Cup glory on their minds that he must have felt like parachuting back off again. When he renews his acquaintance with the Red Rose army on Sunday, the odds will be more in his favour; man against man, 15 against 15.

rugby middle age, was called dable No 1s - Ian McLauchlan, rugby, it has nothing on the six started only the Western Samoa complex, if less painful, probinto the Scotland front row Jim Aitken and David Sole to years separating Dean Ryan's match as the first-choice pairing. lems to negotiate. The SRU was vesterday when Mattie Stewart, the first-choice tight head from Northampton, withdrew with shoulder trouble. He leapfrogged several higherranked contenders, including George Graham of Newcastle, who remains on the bench, a

victim of his own versatility. "We were looking for an outand-out tight-head prop," explained the Scottish team manager, Arthur Hastie. "Most of the other people were merely loose-heads capable of moving across to the other side of the Burnell, a Test Lion five scrum." A brave man, Hastie. Some of Scotland's more formi-

name but three-will be less than amused at being described as "mere" anythings.

Jim Telfer, the national coach, pointed to Burnell's Test experience as the deciding factor and there is no doubt that the London Scottish captain has served his time in the trenches. First capped against England at Twickenham in 1989, he featured in six consecutive Five Nations' Championships and two World Cups before making the last of his 41 appearances against Western Samoa in 1995. And if 30 months is a long

sabbatical from international

last England cap from Sunday's tribal set-to at Murrayfield. Indeed, if Burnell makes a decent fist of this one, he may vet Smith, the former Gloucester approach the record 50 caps collected by Sandy Carmichael

between 1967 and 1978. However, the front row is an area of obvious weakness for the Scots and they could have done without a reshuffle at this late stage. Burnell will have to introduce himself to his hooker, the West of Scotland captain Gordon Bulloch, and while the latter stages of his Test career

There was less joyful news for another member of Scotland's veteran brigade yesterday: Ian open-side flanker now plying an autumnal trade at Moseley, was ruled out of this summer's tour of Australia because of troublesome knee ligaments - his first serious injury in 15 years of top-flight activity. Smith had aiready dropped off the bench for the Calcutta Cup match and will undergo surgery today

to repair his left knee. Meanwhile, the chief exectaken to task by Donald Gorrie, the Liberal Democrat MP for Edinburgh West, for succumbing to television pressure and shifting the big game to a Sunday for the first time in its 127-year history.

Indeed, the honourable member went so far as to introduce an Early Day Motion 'regretting" the move, thereby leaving Watson no choice but to use similar language in defence of his august organisation. "It : is regrettable that an MP should introduce a motion that is fac-

their signatures to it without contracting the SRU to verify the fact that we had no choice but to hold the match on the day requested by the BBC, who hold the broadcasting rights.

"They have the right within their contract with the Five Nations Committee to specify both the days on which matches should be played and the kick-off times. However, because of spectators' travelling arrangements and other practical considerations, we would prefer all Five Nations matches to be played on a Saturday. IT WOULD be stretching a overlapped with that of his fel-low prop, Dave Hilton, they utive of the Scottish Rngby tually incorrect," he furned. "It and will continue to make that is also regretable that other view clearly to the BBC."

## The lower orders set to attack status quo

Chris Hewett sees surprises ahead for the home nations in the qualifying series for the World Cup

point to suggest that Taiwan's 34-29 victory over Sri Lanka in an absolute humdinger of an Asia Round B tie in downtown Bangkok will send the bookmakers rushing to revise their ante-post odds for next year's World Cup. The All Blacks are unlikely to lose much sleep worrying about the Asian threat; back in 1995, the Japanese took the game to New Zealand for the best part of 20 seconds before succumbing

All the same, the Taiwan result - and a few dozen others like it - has given shape and substance to a tournament finally ready to leave the backwaters and take its place in the sporting mainstream. By the end of May, we will know the precise make-up of the final qualifying rounds - rounds that will involve England, Scotland, Ireland, Italy, Argentina and the major powers of the South Sea islands. Oh, and Australia, too. The 1991 world champions also have to prove themselves worthy of a seat at the top table.

KolAthe

England must play two qualifiers this autumn and as things stand, they will be against the Netherlands and, rather more demandingly, Romania. (The Ukraine may yet have something to say about that assumption, but their 35-13 defeat in Amsterdam last November left them looking more like Chicken Kiev than Dynamo Kiev). The Scots, meanwhile, can expect to face two from Spain, Portugal and, er, Germany, who currently stand joint top of Europe Round B Pool 3, if that makes any sense at all.

Any dyed-in-the-wool rugger-bugger traditionalists in-clined to poke fun at the lower end of the world order - to mock Guyana's inability to field a side against Brazil, to giggle uncontrollably at Bulgaria's 89-0 hammering by Latvia, to thought of Andorra winning an entire qualifying pool - will wake up with a start when they realise the seriousness of forthcoming events. Especially if they bappen to be Irish, who will almost certainly cop Italy in one of their autumn qualifying matches, or Australian. The Wallabies are about to risk life and limb in a three-match collision with Western Samoa. Fiji and Tonga. The very best of

British to them. Only four countries have pre-qualified for the finals proper: the top three from 1995 -South Africa, New Zealand and France - plus Wales as hosts. Provided England avoid being turned over by the Dutch, they will be based on home soil in a group already including the All Blacks. The Romanians will probably join them along with a rank outsider from a newly instigated and mind-blowingly complicated repêchage arrange-

South Africa will be based in Scotland and despite a likely Murrayfield collision with the Scots themselves, they appear to have secured the most comfortable ride into the last eight. The remaining groups are far more competitive: France will probably face Western Samoa 🌶 📢 and Canada, Ireland can expect to come up against both Australia and the fast-improving Italians, while Wales may well have to pick a route past Argentina and one of the South Sea big-hitters - something they famously failed to achieve the last time they undertook World Cup business on home turf.

Just to make it harder for the home nations, none of whom will start as clear favourites to win their group, the organisers have inserted a nasty little playoff round before the quarter-finals; a move that could see easily see England and the Scots thrown together in a desperate confrontation that would make this weekend's Calcutta Cup match look like a vicarage whist drive. Still, they should worry. Poor old Tabiti lost 92-6 to Papua New Guinea in their most recent World Cup, tie. Presumably, the coach is on borrowed time.

# Supermen myth is laid bare by United's failings

SOMETHING was gained in the translation. When the Monaco president, Jean-Louis Campora, reflected on reaching the semi-finals of the European Cup he said: "Tonight we beat a myth of football. Manchester United are a myth."

Campora's happy, smiling demeanour and his politician's breeding - his day job is the equivalent of Prime Minister of the principality - suggested he had intended to be more diplomatic. Legend was what he meant although, unwittingly, he may have stumbled upon a

Not so long ago it was a popular assertion: Manchester United were the best team in Europe. Forget the fact they had season." yet to win the trophy to confirm the premise, it was the thing that managers clung to when their charges were being walloped. What can we do when we're playing supermen?

The last two months have laid bare the hollowness of those beliefs. Maybe United, when they have all their players at their disposal, are a match for anyone in the continent. Even ten it is only a maybe. The proof is in the beating.

Since United were serenely leading their supposed closest challengers, Chelsea, 5-0 during ed were looking for a matchwhat seemed to be the season's defining moment on 4 January, the form of the champions has been little above relegation fodder. They have gone out of the European Cup and FA Cup, while in the Premiership they have scored nine goals and gained 14 points out of a potential 30.

The table which appeared to be about to heave with glit- never mind the rapier, he had tering prizes has been left nearly bare and even the domestic championship, which everyone assumed was theirs for the taking, has gone from rassed by swifter, more skilful being a formality to a task opponents. Lower division clubs



Alex Ferguson needs to buy quality players if his ambition to dominate Europe is to be fulfilled, says Guy Hodgson

with a disagreeable truth: United might not win anything this season.

"Now, winning the Premiership has become even more important than it was before," Peter Schmeichel said half-truth United's supposed in- amid the debris of the dreams vincibility had been built on of European supremacy. "With all the international players we have it does not bear thinking about that we might not be in the Champions' League next

All the players. That is where people on the outside with the club's interests at heart differ from those within. On Wednesday night Phil Neville said that no team in Europe could easily shrug off longterm injuries to Schmeichel, Gary Pallister, Roy Keane and Ryan Giggs, not to mention the debilitating niggles that have business when Karel Poborsky ile Agreed Where oth might demur is over the quali-

ty of the replacements. On Wednesday when Unitwinner to unlock a Monaco defence that was tiring, who did Alex Ferguson have at his disposal? From a look at the substitutes' bench either the spent force that is Brian Mc-Clair or the unproven one that is Ben Thornley. Pertinently, the manager chose to

ignore both of them. Without the broadsword, to resort to the bludgeon in the shape of Henning Berg, who was sent forward like come ageing battleship to be embar-

fraught with difficulties. Old do things like that in search of Trafford is coming to terms a sucker punch in FA Cup matches - but future Euro-

pean champions? Afterwards, Ferguson, the disappointment cutting deep lines in his florid features, mumbled about not getting he breaks you need in Europe and in a sense he was right. United should have had a penalty when Martin Djetou jumped with his arms raised at Teddy Sheringham's overhead cross and the hugely impressive David Beckham might have contrived something spectacular, but the stark truth over two legs was that Monaco were the better team.

You make your own breaks, and Ferguson's inability to strengthen his squad even as it began to succumb to injury has been the principal reason why they did not. It seemed good on to buy a re was not.

The Czech winger might not have been quite good enough for would still have been better than the speed on the flanks to turn is the ideal replacement for Eric the Premiership.



struck Paul Scholes and Gary was sold to Benfica, but the dis- Exposed: United's Denis Irwin, Michael Clegg and Nicky Butt troop out of the European Cup

defenders and force crosses from

NEW YEAR IRRESOLUTION: UNITED'S RECORD IN '98

15 Man Utd 1 Barnsley 1 (FAC)

21 Man Utd 2 Derby County 0 (L)

25 Barnsley 3 Men Utd 2 (FAC) 28 Chelsea 0 Men Utd 1 (L)

4 Chelsea 3 Man Utd 5 (FA Cup) 7 Man Utd 1 Bolton Wanderers 1 (L) 4 Monaco D Man Utd 0

18 Aston Villa () Man Utd 2

uncomfortable positions. Perhaps if there were, the atthe United first team, but he tack would begin to inspire fear Thornley, whose early promise game against Monaco, but did ter the shortcomings of Cantona refuses to blossom. Now, with- not get a sniff of a chance while in Europe, he was peerless as a out Giggs, there is no one with the assertions that Sheringham scorer of point-winning goals in

Cantona are becoming more fanciful by the week. A good link player he might be, but the England striker has a diminishing again. Andy Cole had a good ability to turn games and, no mat-

7 Sheffield Wed 2 Man Utd 0

11 Man Utd 1 West Ham 1

14 Man Utd 0 Arsenal 1 18 Man Utd 1 Monaco 1

(United lose on away goals)

Add a goal to the defeats against Southampton, Leicester, and Arsenal, or to the draws against Bolton and West Ham -and Cantona usually did - and United's season would take on a totally different perspective. A single extra strike against Mona-

co, too, was all that was required. So where are United now? Paradoxically, Wednesday's defeat will have enhanced their prospects of winning their third successive championship and their fifth in six years. Schmeichel and Giggs are approaching fitness and Arsenal, their principal challengers, have a minimum of four extra fixtures to shoe-horn into the season's congested finale. Tiredness will grip the Gun-

ners, who will have to do with-

out Dennis Bergkamp for three matches, just as surely as it had tugged at United's shirts in recent weeks and a runners-up spot and a place in the Champions' League appears to be the least United can expect. Their dream of European

dominance will continue to be unfulfilled, however, until they have a squad strong enough to withstand the vagaries of fitness and form. They need to buy and they need to buy at the top end of the market - players of the calibre of Coventry's Darren Huckerby.
Funnily enough, people

were saying exactly the same 12 months ago. The time has gone when you could win European Cops on the cheap.

## Scots' TV boost

By Alan Nixon

SCOTTISH football fans are in for a culture shock next season, with up to 30 top-flight games being played on a Thursday night. The "breakaway" clubs are negotiating a £20m two-year television deal with Sky Sports that will be revealed shortly.

However, there is a large price to pay for the revenue being distributed by the satellite company, with the vast majority of the matches being put on at an unfamiliar time.

There are already objections within the new Premier League about the proposed switch, with Celtic particularly unhappy at losing so many Saturday games. The TV deal will guarantee 30 live broadcasts.

with 24 to involve the Old Firm of Celtic and Rangers. That will mean huge disruption of the fixture calendar and is bound to cause uproar among supporters, with both Rangers and Celtic drawing many fans from all over Scotland and beyond.

The TV contract is worth £10m a year, split among the 10 clubs. Rangers and Celtic will pocket around £1.5m each. while the smaller clubs can expect at least £500,000 during the season - money which will help keep some of those teams with less support affoat.

Celtic will host the Old Firm Scottish Cup semi-final against Rangers, following a drawing of lots vesterday.

Non-League notebook By Rupert Metcalf

10 Man Utd 2 Totterham 0

19 Southempton 1 Man Utd 0 (L)

24 Man Utd 5 Walsall 1 (FAC)

31 Man Utd 0 Leicester City 1 (L) 28 Chelsea 0 Man Utd 1

STEVENAGE BOROUGH lost their last chance of honours this season when they were surprisingly beaten at home by Slough Town in the quarterfinals of the FA Umbro Trophy last weekend. Despite gaining some revenue with a 4-2 win over Slough on Monday, the Hertfordshire side languish in the bottom half of the GM Vauxhail Conference - but their Broadhall Way stadium may yet play host to Natiouwide League football next season.

Victor Green, the Stevenage chairman, confirmed yesterday that his club are engaged

League football at Stevenage? agreement with Barnet. "We can offer Barnet what they don't have: a stadium fit for the Football League," he said.

The Third Division club have fewer than the Football League minimum of 6,000 seats at their Underhill ground. The deadline for rectifying that situation is August this year and, with a proposed new development at Copthall stadinm being delayed by planning problems, Barnet must look elsewhere. They had previously been linked with a temporary move to Enfield or Boreham Wood.

One of the matches of the Conference season will take place at The Shay tomorrow, when the leaders, Halifax Town, take on second-placed Rushden in talks about a ground-sharing & Diamonds. Tuesday's em-

phatic 5-1 home win over Morecambe took the West Yorkshire side 10 points clear of their rivals from Northamptonshire, who have a game in hand.

Ongoing building work at The Shay means that tomorrow's match is all-ticket, with a fer fee is involved and the play-3.500 crowd limit. Halifax are er does not need a work permit. confident that the construction of new terraces at both ends of the stadium will be complete by the Football League's groundgrading deadline of 1 April. The eventual capacity, after the town's rugby league team have moved in, will be 15,000.

Rushden have risen rapidly up the table with four consecutive wins - and another three points for the Diamonds tomorrow will keep the championship race very much alive.

# Emerson arrives

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY are to sign the former Benfica centre-back Emerson Thome until the end of the season. The 25-year-old has been on trial at Hillsborough and has played once for the reserves. No trans-

Reading yesterday moved swiftly to appoint Alan Pardew as their caretaker manager. The former Crystal Palace and Charlton player will take charge for tomorrow's match against Huddersfield. Terry Bullivant resigned as manager on Wednesday after nine defeats in 10 matches left the Royals second from bottom of the

First Division. The Walsall manager, Jan Sorensen, wants to join the City.

consortium which is poised to make a bid for control of the Second Division club. The decision of Jeff Bonsor to resign as chairman this week and put his majority shareholding in the club and Bescot Stadium up for sale has left the Saddlers facing a potentially worrying future.

The midfielder Jamie Pollock joined Manchester City from Bolton Wanderers yesterday on a three-year contract in a film deal. However, City's manager, Joe Royle, has been thwarted in a move for the West Bromwich Albion striker Andy Hunt, who is injured.

The winger Martin Phillips, once rated a £10m prospect by Alan Ball, has returned to Exeter on loan from Manchester

### Senior suspended for Sheffield's semi-final

Rugby League

By Dave Hadfield

KEITH SENIOR, the Sheffield Eagles' centre, will miss his if Sheffield beat Salford next which is based in the South and side's Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-final after being suspended for four games for his left hook on Barrie-Jon Mather in

the last round. Senior, twice capped by Great Britain, was given the ban match was a strategic one.

after he admitted striking Mathsentence means that he will be available for the Wembley final

day against the length of his ban. The League's acting chief executive, Neil Tunnicliffe, said that the choice of Watford for club to respond to an invitation its first major rugby league to put forward their case for el-

The Rugby League is to iner during the victory over stall a regional development of-Castleford last Saturday. His ficer in nearby Bedford and sees Watford as well placed for the Rugby League Conference, weekend, but he is appealing to- Midlands.

Hemel Hempstead yesterday formally applied for League membership, the first amateur evation to the Second Division.

### Edwards feared for crew trapped below deck by fallen mast ened yesterday. Britain's Lawrie

Sailing

By Stuart Alexander

THE CRIPPLED catamaran Royal & Sun Alliance was heading slowly for Chile yesterday as the boat's skipper, Tracy Edwards, explained why a distress signal had been activated when the boat broke her mast in the Southern Ocean on Wednesday.

the mess of a crumpled mast and all its accompanying rigging, there were several crew members trapped in the port hull," Edwards said yesterday. "It was extremely frightening for the girls below while we tried to move the

102ft mast. debris and release them."

The beacon alerted rescue services, but they were not needed and the 92ft catamaran, which had been trying to beat World Race from Brazil to Fort "Not only were we faced with the non-stop round the world Lauderdale in Florida height-

record of 71 days 14 hours, has set up a jury rig and small sail on the remaining 30ft of the

That was enough for a speed of nine knots as Edwards and her 11-strong, all-woman crew decide which port to make for on the coast of Chile, 2000 miles away.

The war of nerves in the sixth leg of the Whitbread Round the

Smith, in Silk Cut, was hanging on to a 17-mile lead in stifling conditions as the nine-boat fleet headed north to the Equator.

WHITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE (abids log, 4,750 miles, São Sobestillo, Bra, to Fort Lauderdele, US): 1 SEr Cut (GB) L. Smith 3,2345 miles to snish; 2 Merit Cup (Moraco) G Dallon + 172 miles behind leader, 3 Innovation Kraemer (Nor) K Frostad + 12; 4 FLanguage (Swe) P Cayard + 177; 5 Chessie Racing (US) J Kosted + 185; 6 Toshite (US) P Samolining + 132; 7 Brunel Sunery (Neth) R Hoher + 21; 8 E Education (Swe) C Guillou + 337; 9 Swedish Match (Swe) G Krantz + 434.

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## 9Niv leads rtistic icence

Colin Brown

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We feeling the annual W to be producting Medicality ortelevels clearity to the Re-Recoin Lord frame and the treat the triggles and total will . think doon it. Some es must continue to suffer for or all study to tool chair The great and all all the tractice of the lending me are that it is bener for the and that partition and sculping be note available for pothe secondary than be ishnat mee. Harswhere none

The provingetting a press. to be the work is finished as netrice a 12% a head fund ears a teception hosted k not be one for the charie.) is the me neld to celebrate or a resolvent continue to the on the control and those may Cachina y he to blook 00. Proc. Mansarywalesh Cricket By Derek Pringle 

" ... " University, but Michael Athercould be follow, ton is not one to dwell on the hand beddlieds don his one-day gear now, for the transfer Wome every indication is that this fi-.. . . was work and match of the series at the Recreation Ground here will be Villet and Lunor law of a draw, and that England will of the rectolding greatose this series 2-1. His could to go. Four years ago, there was a H. Sudwimoan Lara. In an astonishing feat Lara broke one

13. ..... on the los womens HISTORY may have been his

.. We construct the academic subject at Cambridge

the longest-standing records opus in 1994.

to a the opening to the specific to the specif Test of Atherton's future status for anyone else. Indeed, only 24

overs of the West Indies' second innings were possible after England's sole visit to the middle ended on 593, exactly the same first innings total as their opponents.

But things change, not least the people involved and, if three of England's bowlers, Angus Fraser, Andy Caddick and Phil Tufnell, have bittersweet memories of their role in history, they have not allowed Lara to domtour as he did four years ago. The ground has changed

too, virtually beyond recognition, and little remains of the quaint ramshackle stands that hard, bare, and sand coloured. witnessed the inaugural Test

only six weeks ago. Now, considering the place was a rubblestrewn construction site when England first arrived here in has been amazing. Ambitious projects need

luck, and apparently unseasonal rain has helped the Bermuda grass, specially imported from Miami for the outfield, to grow into a lush carpet mate to the same extent on this in just over two weeks. Unless it is shorn, batsmen may find the boundary difficult to reach with ground strokes.

By contrast, the pitch is

But while it looks fairly typical match here, played in 1981. For of the surfaces produced here We much the man bats for might changed radically from the one thoughts one day game here 10 where Lara played his magnum days ago apparently passed into their opponents' hands without incident. If the pitch England need to win.

The ground was derided as does hold true to type, it will a potential Test match venue start slow, quicken slightly and perhaps offer some spin as the game goes on.

The key in Antigua is to bat and gain a total of around 400, January, the transformation or more if possible. In fact, for once, England's batsmen can be certain that they will not have to put their pads on should Lara win the toss.

The home side, more cautious than they used to be, have made two changes, recalling both Junior Murray and Franklyn Rose to their squad. Rose may not play, should the selectors prefer the leg-spin of Dinanath Ranmarine, but Murray will certainly strengthen the batting if not the keeping.

But if the West Indies will bappily settle for a draw - a tactic that does not suit their style of play and one that may play quite easily have been 2-1 up cide whether it is has been

It may not be the mission 2-1 down - and, should England that Michael Atherton wanted manage to win here to level the to accomplish when he agreed to continue as England's captain, but a drawn series against the West Indies in the Caribbean is still an an achievement worthy of high praise.

Despite being cruelly denied their chance of levelling the series in Barbados by the weather, the England captain was adamant that he would not be making any changes - unless some change in conditions this morning brought a sudden change of heart.

"Every Test is a Test to win," Atherton said before net practice yesterday, "so I don't see the point of changing the side just because we need to win this one. We've looked like winning most of the maiches and we could stead, however, his side are kept back for himself.

series, it may not be enough to keep their captain in charge, once he returns to England early in April. Over his four and a half year

tenure Atherton could not have given more to the job, except perhaps a smile. But that is his way, and even a position as public as that of the England captaincy should not force you to

Unwilling to dwell on the past, Atherton refused to look forward either, and those attempting to get the England captain to speculate over his future were once more left with that familiar image of a great survivor still clinging to power ourselves, or at least 2-2." In- used against his opponents or

# Montgomerie reveals pain of media atack

Golf By Andy Fartell

If Colin Montgomeric is to

break his duck on the US Tour this week, the Bay Hill Invitational would be as good a place as any. Hosted by Arnold Palmer, the event features an unusual winner's trophy, namefeaturing the cross of St Andrew frame of mind. on the blade.

Montgomerie would not get to keep the sword but even the ever, as lightning and heavy rain miniature letter-opening version that the winner gets to take home would arm him against the sharper scalpels of the American press.

Even as he was getting off the after 10 holes. plane in Miami two weeks ago, Sports Illustrated magazine welcomed the Scot to the Florida run-up to next month's US Masters with an odious piece of writing describing Monty as "the Goon from Troon", "golf's Gael-force windbag" and "a firth-class jerk".

So over the top was the article, Montgomerie has actual-American galleries, "If there is a blessing in disguise, I've had a lot of support from it," Montv said. "I just wish it had not

happened in the first place. "I've become immune to job is in the public eye. Unfortenately, my family are not and that's what hurts. It was a cynical piece written well before I got here. I thought it was very un-

Montgomerie had enough on his plate trying to sort out his putting after missing the cut at Doral, but a third-place finish in last week's Honda Classic and the fact that he is staying with by a full replica of a 16th cen- his family in Orlando this week tury Scottish claymore sword has put the Scot in a happier

His 47th appearance in a US Tour event was delayed, howcaused a suspension to the first round. In what play was possible yesterday morning, Bernhard Langer, in the first group of the day, was two under par

Taking advantage of the still conditions and responsive greens, the German birdied the first from 15th feet plus the parfives fourth and sixth. His only dropped shot came at the ninth. where he put his tee-shot in a bunker, but his birdie attempt at the 10th was his third of the day to catch the lip but not drop.

Langer was one behind local ly gained the sympathy of the Robert Damron and the new American Ryder Cup captain, Ben Crenshaw, who holed his second shot for an eagle at the

Tiger Woods, without a win in America so far this year, omithings like this. I have to as my nously birdied the first two holes.

## Clarke improving image overseas

hitting Irish Ryder Cup player, will be anxious to impress American officials when he plays in his first US Masters next be diminished by missing Bay month. Refused an invitation to the Bay Hill tournament at Orlando, Florida, this week, play but how well you are play-Clarke, with typical stubborn- ing that matters." with a single bullet left in his | ness, bounced back yesterday gun. The next five days will de- | with a seven-under-par 66 in the America is poor. He has played first round of the Portuguese Open at Penina.

It gave the 29-year-old Irishman a one-shot lead over the pionship last year with a best Londoner Peter Mitchell and he is two ahead of Domingo Hos- US Open. pital, Jean Van de Velde, Wayne Riley, Eduardo Romero and Tony Johnstone.

"I would have gone to America if I had got an invitation to the Bay Hill," said Clarke. "But when I heard that the Portuguese Open had been switched to Penina I was quite his ninth hole, where he was on keen to come here.

"This is one of the better courses in Europe and I know it quite well. I first played here played the front nine, easily the nine or 10 years ago when 1 came over with the Irish amateur team and I lost in a playoff in this tournament here to Adam Hunter three years ago. and contented himself with a

DARREN CLARKE, the big-make up for it with a win here this week,"

Clarke does not think his chances in the US Masters will Hill. "It does not make any difference. It is not the courses you

That said, Clarke's record in only three majors in there, missing the cut in the US Open in 1996 and the US PGA chamfinish of tied 43rd in the 1997

And although he equalled the Penina course record with his 66 it will not count because preferred lies were being used as balls were collecting mud in certain damp areas.

Clarke had five birdies and an eagle three at the 478-yard 18th. the green with a drive and a fiveiron and sank a 10-foot putt. But, unlike most of the field, he most difficult half, in a four-under-par 31 after turning in 35.

Seve Ballesteros, meanwhile, shot a one-under-par 72 "You never like losing a shrug, saying: "It was not too play-off so it would be nice to good, not too had."

# The date is to be considered and the considered and

note that the second state of the second sec alcutta with a breathtaking as- being dismissed, fell to the sec-

actual with a preatmaking asault on Shane Warne and his ond new ball shortly before stumps when he cut Michael Kasprowicz straight to point.

The Indians, who bowled out the tourists for a modest 233 on he first day, amassed 369 for 3 cheered wildly as the batsmen y close of the second day's play

y close of the second day's play

to take a first-innings lead of 136

rith seven wickets in hand.

rith seven Navjot Sidhu (97)

roblam to a fee that Laxuan (95) put on achin Tendulkar added a brilthreshold lant 79 off 86 balls. Tendulkar at 12 fours and two sixes, sharand two sizes, shar-and partially and a third-wicker stand of 140 ig a unit-wicker stand of 140 ith Rahul Dravid (76 not out). oth however, the

got stuck into the hapless Australians, whose hopes of fighting back after a 179-run defeat in the first Test at Madras wilted under the hot sun.

The tourists suffered a double blow when vice-captain Steve Waugh's discomfort while batting on Wednesday was diagnosed as a groin injury, ruling him out for the rest of the

Tendulkar, who hit 204 and match. Waugh will bat only if reand Test against Australia in 155 earlier on the tour without quired in the second innings. The Indians were particularly

severe on leg-spin wizard Warne, who was thrashed for 90 runs in 24 unsuccessful overs. Spinning partner Gavin Robertson went for 1 for 67, while fast bowler Kasprowicz returned 1 for 86. 

suspected bleeding behind his left eye, sustained in a reserve match on

# England pair

SURREY have signed Alec Stewart and Adam Hollinake on long-term deals designed to keep the England pair at The Oval beyond the millennium.

Stewart, who made his county debut in 1981, and Hollioake, who played his first game for Surrey in 1993, have agreed five-year contracts.

Surrey have signed a threeyear sponsorship deal worth £750,000 with the information technology firm Computacenter which includes underwriting Surrey's two day-night matches on 3 and 5 August.

### DARYLL CULLINAN resur- Makhaya Ntini, the 20-year-old rected his faltering Test career fast bowler from Border, in with a sparkling century for their team. He is the first black South Africa on the first day of African to play in a Test for the first Test against Sri Lanka South Africa.

Cullinan finds century form

in Cape Town yesterday. Cullman, who had not

reached 50 in his previous eight Test matches, hit 113 off 160 balls as South Africa closed on 298 for 6 on a good batting pitch. He was involved in successive partnerships of 95 with Gary Kirsten and 96 with his caotain. Hansie Cronje.

Pramodya Wickramasinghe was Sri Lanka's most successful bowler, taking 2 for 50 in 19 overs. South Africa included

SCOTLAND (v England): S Lewrie, T Robb, A Denirolm, H Walker, F Pearson, J Jack, S Fraser, C Corosran, S McDonald, P Robertson, A Garat, L Burton, R Smpton, D Renilson, V Nal, G Souzar, N Kleppang.

NHL: Pittsburgh 4 Edmonton 2; Washington 1 Carolina D; New Jersny 3 Ansheim D; NY Pangers 2 Mortreal 1 (di); Cotawa 4 NY Is-landers 4 (di); Tampa Bey 4 Vancues 2; Detroit 5 Toronto 2; Dallas 3 San Jose 1.

Billy Boston and Shaun Edwards were the Inaugural inductees into Wigarts Hall of Fame yesterday, set up to coincide with announcement of a £35m, five-year sponsorship deal with Tesco, who have already bought the club's Central Park ground for 19m.

ice hockey

Rugby League

SOULD ALTHOUGH PART LOSS AND ABOUT ALTHOUGH PART LOSS AND ABOUT AT A STATE THE THE METERS AND BENCH OF METERS AND BENCH OF METERS AND ACCOUNT A STATE AND ACCOUNT AND ACCOUNT

Umptres; D.L. Orcherd and R.S. Dunne.

# Sporting Digest

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JVISS OPEN (Basie): Men's singles, it round; P Gade Christensen (Den) bt P spichand (Indion) 15-6 (5-5; T Johansen, we) bt Chen Hong (Ch) 15-6 (15-5; T Johansen, we) bt Chen Hong (Ch) 15-6 (15-1); Indianal Harsen (Den) bt P ses (Can) 5-6 (5-1; Rung Parmadi (Ial) 19 (15-6; M Lundgaard Harsen (Den) bt M River (Spice) 15-7; K Johansen (Den) bt P Bergstrom (Swe) 15-7; K Johansen (Ial) 19 Eriksson (Swe) 15-7; K Johansen 10 bt F Bergstrom (Swe) 15-7; K Johansen 10 bt F Bergstrom (Swe) 15-3; 4-9 Ponsen (Den) bt R Megnusson (Swe) 10 bt Ses (Gar) bt T Tankoth (Japan) 5-9 (5-7) Sogaard (Den) bt R Megnusson (Swe) 11 5-10; A Whanse (Indon) bt P Userov 10 bt R Megnusson (Swe) 11 bt Ses (P Ses (Swe) 15-10 5-6; A Whanse (Swe) 15-10 5-6; A Whanse (Swe) 15-10 5-6; A Washing (Swe) 15-

**TODAY'S** NUMBER

105,266

he number of pounds at the Great Britain heelchair basketbail team receive under the World ass Performance Proamme, as announced / the UK Sports Council esterday. They join 20 her sports who have relived more than £24m unor the programme, which ns to help potential

Baseball

Major League owners approved the sale of the Los Angeles Dodgers to Rupert Murdoch yesterday. No figure was announced but it was believed to around \$850m (\$210m).

around \$350m (E270m).
Cablevision, owner of the NBA's New York Knicks and the NBH's New York Flangers, has begun discussions with the New York Yankses' owner, George Neinbrenner, about buying the club.

Baskethall MBA: Philodephia 104 Delroit 96; Mami 94 Vancouver 91; Charlotte 71; Utah 95; San Antonio 82; Minnesota 76; Settlië 99 LA Cappers 80; LA Lekars 89 Phoenix 93.

Bowls Bowls
WOMEN'S HOME INTERNATIONAL INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP (Darlington): Intend by Water 128-112 (Instant Atips Bray)
P Nolan draw with D Mongar 20-20; A Doggart bt D Rowlands 24-44; M Johnston to M
Termor 24-25; J Multicland bt W Monts 24-21;
M Fearon lost to M Statuprots 16-24; A
McGotimess bt G Mes 20-18.

Cricket Graham Rose, the Somerset all-rounder, received 591,500 from his benefit season. The 33-year-old has also signed a new three-year contract.

Football Leeds' David Hopkin is doubtful for Scottends home match against Den-mark on Wednesday after he re-turned to hospital yesterday with

Football results

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS CUP Guarter-final accord leg Lohonole Moscow 2 (Vistra-chev 55, Chuganov 90) AEX Athens 1 (Yopi-sis pan 96) (1997 2-1).

Wigdnessay

BUROPEAN CUP Quarter-finate second leg:

Borussle Dorimand 1 (Chaptiest pen 100) Beyom hibrish 0 faller edys fins; mgs. 1-0; Doriman
(few 1 (Fatters 66) Juvenius 4 (praight 29, 66,
72; Del Plein 88) (rgg: 5-2); Manchester (hd 1
(Solidien: 35) Morriso 1 (Printiguet 6) (rgg:
1-1- Advisor with on army goals); And Madrid 3
(Karambau Fi), Micharles 58, Herro pen 90; Lourepresent Denne 4-12.

(Arember D), Mcclanter St, Herro per sup Lan-ercuser 0 (agg. 4-1).

ACARIMOS. PREBMERSHEP. Newcastle 1 (Rivers 77) Crystal Paters 2 (Lombardo M. Jan-sen 23).

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE First Di-visions Swinzbar 0 Widned L.

TENNENTS SCOTTENT CLIP Figh-cound replay. Dunder 1 (Gosdy 11) Rangers 2 (McClobs 3). 67).

Golf
The Chemapol Czech Open, cancelled at the request of the sponsors because of flood-related diseasiers in the Czech Republic last summer, is being replaced by the German Open in Berlin on 6-9 August.

PORTUGUESE OPEN (Le Meridien Penins) Leading final-round acoret (Gir and Irl unises stated; 55 O Castos, 57 P Michal, 68 D Hospital (Sp.), J Van de Velde (Ff), W Riey (Auß), E Romen (Arg), T Johnstone (Zim), 68 J Singh (find), J Coorers (Arg), T3 J Remesy (Ff), V Philips, M A Mertin (Sp.), D Gatord, K Brink (Swe), T1 T Gills (US), F Cas (Sp.), D Howell M James, S Luna (Sp.), J Lunas, D Snryth, D Lynn, R Bosel, A Oldorn, M Plortal (II), D Borrego (Sp.), D Cole (Aus), F Henge (Swe), 72 F Jacobson (Swe), P Lawrie, A Hurter, H Thui (Gar), M Moutand, G Owen, P Heddom (Swe), C Van Moutand, G Owen, P Heddom (Swe), C Van

CM VALIDHALL CONFERENCE: Gassheed 2 (Bowley 15, pan 55) Noberminater 0

UNIBOND LEAGUE Presier Division; Radulfie O Gusely 2: First Division; Great Harwood 1 Wil-ton Albion 2:

ton ABOR Z.

OR MANTENS LEAGUE Prisoler Division: St
Leonards 2 Halbaroum Rum 5 Middlend Divisions
Pouruds 2 Balleant By Solika 1 Statum 2 South-ers Division: Dartlard 1 Tanbridge 0

ora Division: Dartlard 1 Tanbridge 0

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Pre-inter Division: Speiding & Potten 3.

SCREWITK DIFFECT LEAGUE Premier Divisions Brisport 2 Sinors Q

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division During 2 Stocken 0; Northeller-ton 1 Billington: Town 4.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First DIVI-sion St links 3 Minutes LR 0

Der Velde (Neth), A Gerrido (Sp.), H Nystrom (Swe), R Cheprison, R Derksen (Neth), 73 D Robertson, P Golding, S Field, S Cape, J Rystrom (Swe), J Bioletron, A Brusghi (t), D Bissson (Swe), A Sequeita (Pr.), I Pyman, D Carrier, Niterinotispam (Bel), J Rivero (Sp.), J Sendelin (Swe), D Hogins, D Cooper, M Lafeber (Neth), T Googele (Ger), 74 C O'Connor Jr., G Essans, M Reale (R), G Nicideus (US), F Howley, S Terrance, G Brend Jr., R Russel, G Greiners (Aus.), J Rask (Swe), B May (US), M Mechanizie, P Heugend (Nor), J Heufensorth, F Roce (So), S Gi (Pro), M Jeron (Swe), L Payna, D Chopne (Swe), C Clerk, S Alter (NZ), B Larre, J Spence, S Benned, Tr S R Coles, M Halberg (Swe), P Broad, LTS, A Rossbrand (Swe), F Bermad (Fr), S Webser, K Valnoist (Fri), M Davis, G Or, F Eales, D Rapping, R Caydon, W Westner (SA), A Sobrisho (Por), 76 S Learney (Aus.), A Sherborne, R Jacquelin (P), G Huchenot, S Richardson, M Molina (Arg.), R Lee, G Rurey, D Thomson, P Cuirioi (Swe), R Burns, The Leeds defender Martin Hiden has been named in Austria's squed for the garne against Hungary on Wednesday. FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Rearranged fluthree: Sun 18 April: Coverity v Liverpool from 18 April: Coverity v Liverpool from 12 May). Monday 4 May: Manchester Uld v Leeds (bid 50) from 2 May). Tuesday 5 May: Crystal Pelace v West Harn (from 7 Mar). Wednesday 8 May: Liverpool v Amerial from 5 April: Coverbal Pelace v West Harn (from 7 Mar). Wednesday 8 May: Liverpool v Amerial (from 5 April). LOAN TRANSFER: Stephen Wright (defender) Rangers to Wolverhampton Wenderster.

> perimental rule is to become perma-nent and that as from 2 July no more substitutions, except for injury, will be substitutions, except for injury, will be allowed at penalty combens. EMGLAND SCILLD (v Scotland; Lillestell, Sabutday and Sunday); J Binston (Louch-borough Liniv), S Blanks, K Bowden, P Miller, J Mould, C Voss (Leiceste), M Clawidow, J Empaon (Carlarbury), K Brown, L Copeland, M Micholle, J Smith (Sough) T Collen, C Faid, L Newcombe (Fightown), M Davies, J Stambith (Sustan Coldibid), F Camentons, K Micora, L Wifelet (Othor), K

Hockey The international Hockey Federation has announced that the no offside ex-

UNIVET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE Pret Divi-alore Hasocks 1 Ringmer 2 JEMSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division Schem 1 Sudbury Then 0

Spham 1 Suchury Them 6
PONTINS LEAGUII Premier Division: Leods 3
Birmingham 4. First Divisions Manchester City 2
Leicester 2; Octans 0 Generally 2 Second Divisions Leods (2) Them 10 Generally 4: Showedown 2 Braction City 2 Second Divisions (2) Them 2 Second Divisions (2) Them 2 Divisions (2) The Chairter Creams 2 Wigner D. League Cop quarter-Smith Spide 1 Series (3) The Company Copy (3) The Copy (3) The Copy (4) The C

3.2 on paneling). ANON BESTRANCE COMBENUTION First Divi-sion: (posich () West Ham 3, Westord 2 Portanouth 1; Wintledon 2 Brighton 8.

GEVATO IRISH COCA-COLA FLOCOLIT CUP Sec Gust: Bellymana 1 Cliftonville 2 (d' Secretar).

IMTERNATIONAL PRIENCLESS Returns 0 total (Similar) 19; Morice 1 (De Anda 68) Paraguey 1 (Similar 68)

PREPADE VES: Guingamo (PA) 1 Iran D; Boca Ju nicos (Argi D Colombia D

Today's fixtures Cricket

SIXTH TEST (First day of tive); West indice v England (205) for the Recreation Ground, St John's, Antique).

HARP LASSER MATIONAL LEAGUE OF BRE-LAND Premier Division: Bohembers v Killian-ny City (745). THE TIMES PA YOUTH CUP Fifth round: Chalese v Blacktum Rovens (70). FRIENOLY: Dorchester v Southerniton (730). Rugby Union

AutTERNATIONALS: Intend v Wales (200) or Limericki; Scotland v England (40) (of Inventell). UNDER-31 INTERNATIONALS: Intend v Wales. Ed) (of Control); Scotland v England (230) for Inventelly.

Rugby League FRENCLY: York v Leads (730). Speedway

PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Paterborough v lake of Wight (746). SPRING CUP first legt Edinburgh v Glasgow (730). INDIVIDUAL: Alen Wildrech Tribute Trophy (720) (at Belle Wee). Basketball

Other sports RALLYING: Valuation Really of Weles (to 21 New Zealand are to play metches in South Wales and the North-east as part of their four this autumn. The Kiwis will play Wales at either Cardiff or Swansea and a Young England team in Gatashead. The three Tests are to take place at the McAlpine Stadium, HudderSleid, Botton and Watford, kicking-off at 6pm on 31 October, 7 and 14 November.

Rugby Union

ENGLAND A (v Scotlend A, Invertellit, tothy, 4.0): C Catting (Gloucaster); B Johnson (Gloucaster), N Generation; (Waspa), Mr
Allies (Northampton), D Chapman (Fichmond); B Buttend (Butt), P Richards (Jondon
Irish); D Bernes (Newcaste), M Regan

(Bath), V Ubogu (Beth), D Gillee (Richmond), R Fidier (Gloucester), R Winters (Bectord), B Clarte (Richmond capi), P Senderson (Sate), Replactments, J Lyweey (Bristol), S Brown (Richmond), C Hartleon (Orrel), M Shaw (Neucastle), G Chuter (Saracers), R Jankins (Harteques), J Mallett (Bath)

The Regal Welsh tournament is moving to Cardiff International Arena in a three-year deal amounced by the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, the sports governing body yesterday. The event has been held at the Newport Centre since 1991.

Mannoumi (4-8) bt Asahiyurako (7-5). Emmakasuga (6-6) bt Kotomozuma (4-8); Tereo (4-8) bt Asahowaka (6-6); Ogmathiya (7-5) bt Matotzumi (7-5); Aoglysma (5-5) bt Higonoumi (7-5); Tochinonada (6-6) bt Bicsteriki (4-8); Wakanojo (4-8) bt Garyu (3-9); Kotomosika (6-6) bt Chiyotakai (7-5); Kotomosika (6-6) bt Chiyotakai (7-5); Kotomosika (6-6) bt Chiyotakai (7-5); Kotomosikai (6-6); Musadyama (8-4) bt Kotonyu (3-9); Musadsimanu (8-4) bt Kotonyu (3-9); Musadsimanu (3-4) bt Kyotusikana (1-8). Akebono (10-2) bt Tochinowaka (4-8).

# SNOW REPORTS

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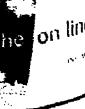
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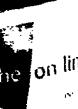
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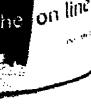
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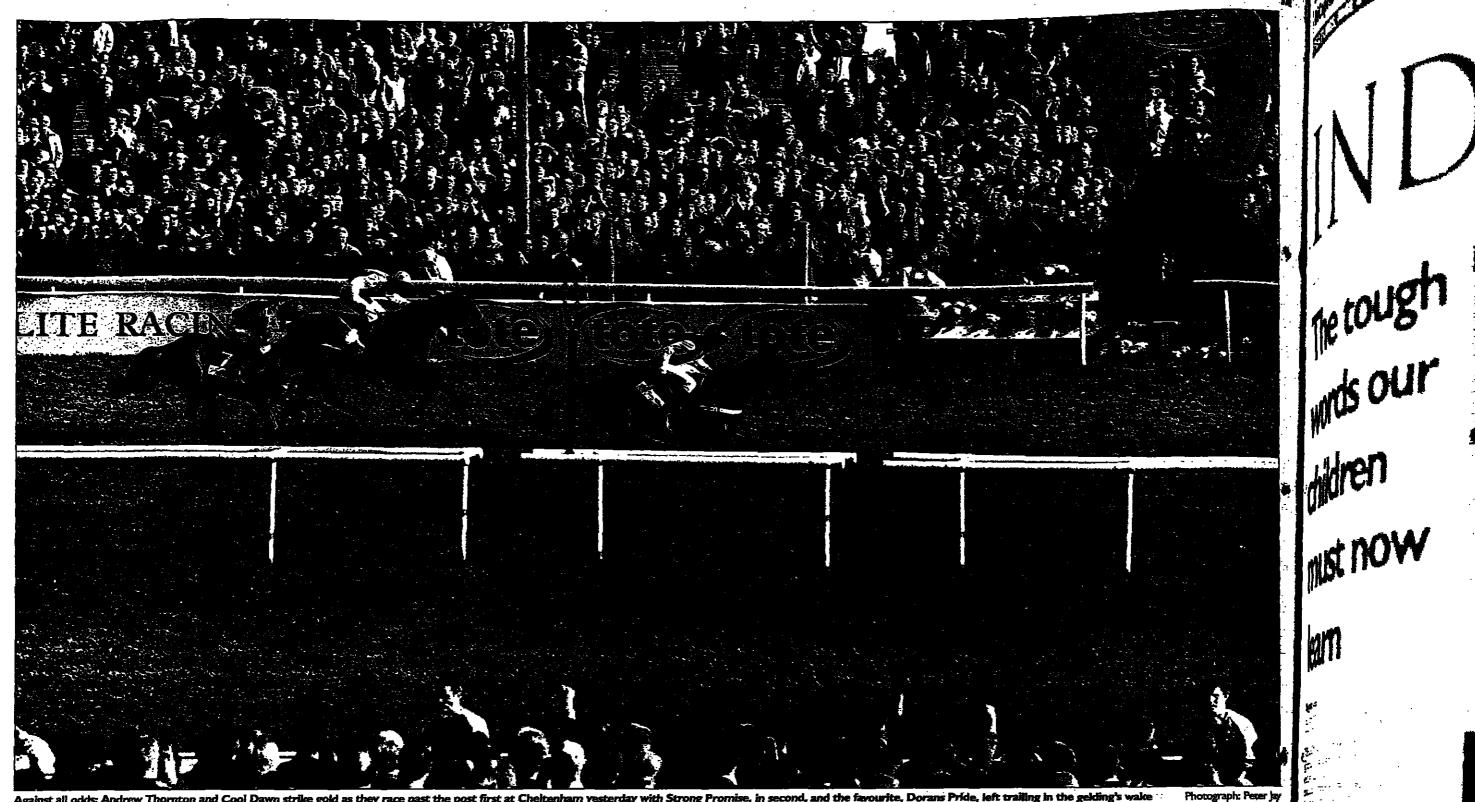


R to ball to be set of





# 32/SPORT



# Cheltenham awakes to a Dawn raid

Racing By Richard Edmondsor at Cheltenham

A HORSE bought to be a nice ladies' runaround won the Chel-Cool Dawn, who was purchased as little more than an equine sofa for his owner, Dido Harding, proved himself in the fiercest crucible of National Hunt's blue riband.

As a rider of Cool Dawn, Dido is now an extinct species. The 10-year-old's new partner is Andrew Thornton, though his owner has not yet extinguished the thought of reclaiming the mount. "I live in hope that one day I will get to ride a Gold Cup winner in a race," she said yes-

pose but I'm not complaining. ment of the race on the apthis good and even this morning we were saying that if he does his best and gets round we would really be delighted." Others had similar assessments of Cool Dawn's ability. He was

allowed to go off at 25-1. The gelding had not been the most prepossessing figure in a Cheltenham parade ring bathed in unusual Festival warmth. That honour belonged to the huge and intimidating horse that was to cause him the most discomfort, Strong Promise.

cloud Thornton's mind with "I got him about five years any complex riding instructions.
ago when I asked Robert [AlHe didn't give him any at all.

ner, yesterday's winning train- The jockey himself developed erl to find me a nice, safe just a single strategy. He was to ladies' point-to-pointer that lead from start to finish. Thus, might one day win a hunter- Cool Dawn towed the field chase. He's a bit off-brief I sup- along until the definitive mo-

"We never expected him to proach to the 12th fence. Cyborgo swerved off the course, taking out of the race both stablemate Indian Tracker and the greatest hope of Britain, See More Business. It took plenty of meaning away from the contest.

The mêlée went unseen, however, by Thornton. At the top of the hill his mind wandered momentarily to think about his beloved grandmother who died last year. Then he just put his head down and rode like stink.

Alner had decided not to It seemed this would not be enough, however, when the massive spectre of Strong Promise joined the leader on the

### TOTE GOLD CUP

. COOL DAWN (trained by R Ainer) 3. Dorans Pride (M Hourigan) R Dunwoody 9-4 fav

Casuatries - Pulled Up: Addington Boy (before 4 ferices out) (12-1), Couldn't Se Better (before lest tence) (33-1), Cyborgo (before 7th, teme) (10-1); Carried Out: Indian Tracker (before 7th) (150-1), See More Business (before 7th) (11-2), Fell: Rough Quest (17th) (14-1). 17 ran, won by 11/4 lengths, head, 14, 3, 4.

turn into the straight. Dorans Pride, the favourite from Ireland, had been creeping closer too, but he was never to get out of creeping gear.

Cool Dawn was to be no ice sculpture in the Cheltenham heat, though. He kept boxing to the line, and by the time he reached it he was a length and three-quarters ahead of Strong Promise, Dorans Pride finished well to be a further head behind.

For anyone who had seen Cool Dawn at Wincanton in November this would have been an eye-rubbing moment. That day,

own right, but not at this level."

Scholes and Ryan Giggs as he

tries to beat off Arsenal for the

suading the Coventry manager,

Gordon Strachan, to seil. An ear-

lier approach was rejected, but

now Ferguson has to get his man.

United have been in contact with

Coventry who may be forced to

move out Huckerby or Dion

Dublin after their surprise FA

Cup defeat by Sheffield United.

Huckerby was in Manchester

yesterday discussing terms, but

reliable Coventry sources re-

vealed that he was at training in

the Midlands. However, a deal

could be done in the next week.

Huckerby would certainly be in-

terested in the glamour move

down Dublin, a target for

Blackburn, on a long-term con-

tract before selling Huckerby.

Coventry will want to tie

if Coventry agree a price.

Rumours were rife that

The problem will be per-

championship.

in the hands of Dido, he, in her words, "ran like a drain". Robert Alner steeled himself to tell the owner she should not ride the horse again, "It was the hardest thing I had to do," he said. "I knew the horse was pretty good, and Dido's good in her

who had been once relegated himself should take the posting. Andrew Thornton was a but at least Thornton decided

young rider in his native Northwith his stirrups so long that he could probably kick rabbits from horseback. This technique, he found, was not de rigueur when he moved to Upper Lambourn and Kim Bailey. He pulled "the pedals" up and his fortunes started going the

"Riding too short just didn't work for me," he said. "I was just trying to fit in with the stylish way they did it down south. Basically I just wasn't being myself. I was just being stupid and I needed my head looking at.

One day, in November 1994, he knew the game was up. "I

That was Thornton's cue. It dropped off this horse," he is no ostentation about this eemed most apt that a rider said. "He was in front but I just athlete and he will continue to fell off him." By then the alliance with Bailey had ended,

promising, if unglamorous, to return to his natural style. The simple approach has ast. He is a tall man and rides yielded great results this year. about Alner. He will again be Thornton, at 25, won a King at the horsebox wheel this George VI Chase on Boxing morning as he drives to the Day (ironically on See More rather more prosaic Folkestone. Holly's victory.

Success will not go to Andrew Thornton's head though. the race to the melody of "Fan-

tread the path that has resur rected his career. "T'll be still going to the Hexhams and Perths and Sedgefields," he said.

There is little pomp either Business) and ignited his Fes- He'll see Thornton there. It was tival on Wednesday with French all a rather appropriate, if unexpected, result in the end. The field had paraded before Like Cool Dawn himself, there fare For The Common Man".

issing 🖖

Mewcastle

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### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



**ACROSS** Devours ribs (6) It's impertinent (out of order and line) in a girl 23

9 Photographer's aid, snapping tree by lake during trip (10) 10 Tied man one released

11 Chap, one working to squeeze North's contract (8)

12 Girl's cooler at first in the country (6) 13 Prize song, not second 2

15 Female, following note, 3

in consequence snarled 18 Finest Ming? On reflec-tion it's not China (3-5)

19 Grey's slow (4) Feed, swigging measure of rough wallop (6) A little Eastern book about a parrot (4-4) 25 Wretch facing Bishop Plant becomes rank

check (4) Dead dry and heated, weed in time (9) maybe (10) Produce rare results? Good in a loser... (8) tune (5<del>-4</del>) ...(one with every incen- 16 Place for decanters a tive to beat another) (6)

DOWN Small group with old instrument (5) One you might associate with trolls? (9) Most of the fruit's fit

for a king (6)

5 Produce deed affecting completion? (2,2,3,5,3) Beast mounted on a crest in a crypt (8) Left port with full cargo

14 A stretch on new track's thrown up change of party exhausted, we hear? (9) 17 Turned up accompanied

20) Fences put up to keep little Edward in (6) 22 Unhappy sacrificing Spade in card game (5) 24 Plants, non-British species (5)

## Ferguson heats up hunt for Huckerby

Football

By Alan Nixon

ALEX FERGUSON, the Manchester United manager, is trying to bring Coventry City's coveted forward, Darren Huckerby, to Old Trafford in a £5m deal before the transfer deadline.

Huckerby is top of injury-hit United's wanted list to help their sagging attempt to retain the League title, and next Thursday is the transfer deadline. Ferguson has been given cash to spend by his chief executive, Martin Edwards, and the multi-talented attacker is the player be wants to add muchneeded life to his forward line.

Huckerby destroyed United this season with his pace and unpredictable skills and Ferguson could do with his bubbling enthusiasm for the closing weeks of the campaign.

The former Newcastle United reserve can play down either wing or down the middle and is the kind of talent United lacked as they slipped out of

Huckerby would be a oneman forward line for Ferguson,

Gascoigne calls off £3m **Boro transfer** 

PAUL GASCOIGNE has refused to leave Rangers to join Middlesbrough in a £3m transfer, writes Alan Nixon. The England midfielder has personally called off a deal to team up with Bryan Robson because he wants to see out the season in Scotland.

Gascoigne's snub to Boro will exasperate the Rangers chairman, David Murray, who set up the transfer a week after preparing a similar move to Crystal Palace. Murray is believed to be the driving force behind his departure, but the fans and the manager, Walter Smith. are happy for Gascoigne to stay for the rest of the season.

After lengthy talks with friends and Rangers staff yesterday, Gascoigne decided he would finish the campaign at Ibrox and told his agent, Mel Stein, to call off the transfer after both clubs announced they had agreed a price.

They could not risk losing both. Now Gascoigne wants to get back into the Rangers team and help their fading hopes of winning a 10th successive title and the Scottish Cup as well as recovering his fitness and in-

Moldovan and needs to recoup some cash. He also has a surplus Myth of Ferguson's ternational place with England. supermen, page 30

Strachan has spent heavily on his club's record buy Viorel

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## If you like the sound of the South of France you'll love the taste.

A faraway look comes into people's eyes when mention is resorts and spectacular scenery studded with ancient vineyards - among them, La Motte, La Boulandière and Les Garrigues de Truilhas, where James made of the South of France. de Truilhas, where James Herrick makes the definiting Midi Chardonnay, Rich, stylish and full of taste; fresh, yet fruity and long-finishing And amazingly why settle for vin ordinaire when you can vin ordinaire afford the glorious Herrick South? RDONNAY M DE EXYS D'OC James Herrick CHARDONNAY THE PICK OF THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

